CANADIAN

HOUSE & HOME

JULY/AUGUST 2025

Summer Living

THE BEST OF MUSKOKA • CREEMORE • BALSAM LAKE • THORMANBY ISLANDS, B.C.

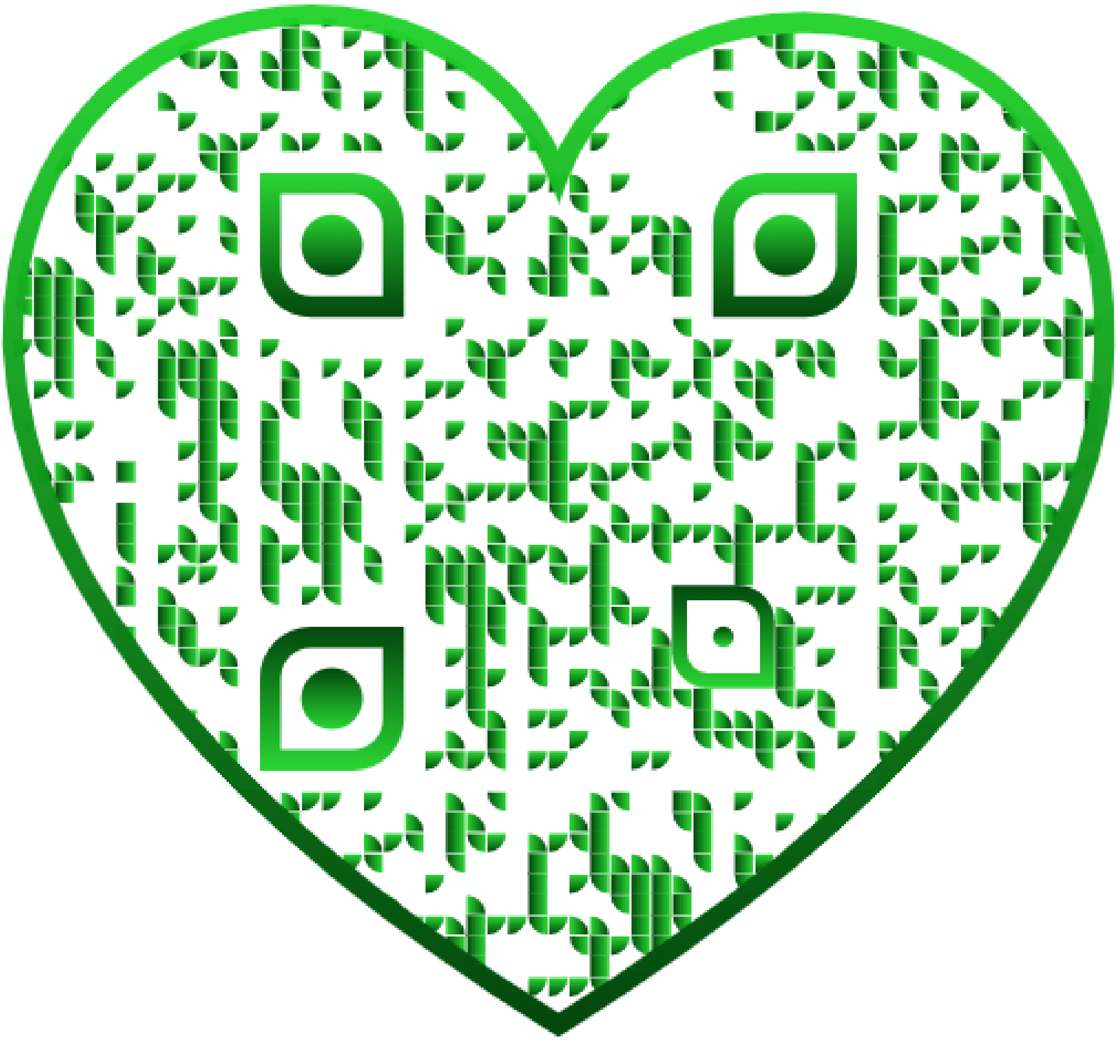
TRENDWATCH: CANADA COOL

NEW COLLABS:
PIERCE & WARD
NICKY & COLETTE
JAKE ARNOLD
AND POOKY LIGHTING

OUTDOOR DINING? *SWIVEL* IN STYLE

Perfect Pools

Plus FIRE UP THE BBQ! SIZZLING STEAK FAJITAS



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VOLUME 47, NUMBER 6, JULY-AUGUST 2025 | DATE OF ISSUE: JUNE 2025

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ON THE COVER

A beautiful contemporary home with interiors by Sam Sacks. Story, page 38. Photography by Lauren Miller.

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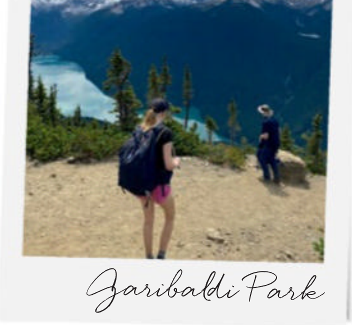
URBAN BARN

Sarah and Mike Chiu's North Thormanby Island home.

ABOVE: A family selfie.



TOP RIGHT: Surfing days at Cox Bay Beach. **LEFT:** Hiking to the Kees and Claire Memorial Hut with Cheakamus Lake in the background.

No Place Like Home

There's a kind of magic about travel. Over the years, I've been lucky enough to journey to some incredible places around the globe. I've wandered through markets in Marrakech, gone on safari in Kenya, backpacked through Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, explored Russia on a high school trip, and experienced the Nordic countries of Denmark, Sweden and Finland in both the summer and winter months. I honeymooned in Argentina, spent weeks beachside in Fiji and on the Cook Islands, and explored tiny pockets of Europe, the U.S., and Mexico.

And yet, in recent years, my favourite destination has been much closer to home.

Since settling in North Vancouver, B.C., five years ago, I've discovered a new kind of wonder — the kind you wake up to every day. It's true what they say: sometimes you have to leave home to really see it. The sheer beauty of British Columbia continues to astonish me. The Sea-to-Sky Highway, curling along the edge of Howe Sound toward Whistler, is easily one of the most breathtaking drives in the world. And over on Vancouver Island, Tofino keeps casting its spell with its wild beaches, old-growth forests and laid-back, surf-town spirit.

Last summer, my family and I hiked to the Kees and Claire Memorial Hut in Garibaldi Park — an off-the-grid, backcountry outpost perched above a glacier-fed lake. We trekked past fields of alpine blooms and were rewarded with unforgettable sunsets and a rare glimpse of the northern lights. It reminded me how vast and varied Canada's natural beauty is, and how much of it we have yet to discover — even in our own backyard. This year, like many of you, I'm looking to stay closer to home. Whether it's a weekend at the lake or setting off on a new adventure within our own borders, there's a renewed appreciation for all the unique experiences this country has to offer.

In this issue, we celebrate that spirit of local escape. We visit designer Parris McKenna's charming bunkie on Lake Muskoka (*page 72*), a companion to her family's four-season cottage, which was designed to welcome overflow guests in her signature West Coast meets old world style. Nearby, designer Angela Wheeler invites us into her Tyrolean-inspired cabin (*page 48*), where thoughtful details like scalloped edges and carved stair railings pay homage to a family trip through Austria and Switzerland.

In Creemore, Ont., we step into the relaxed rural home of Heather Dryden and Peter Miller (*page 38*). With sweeping views and a serene pool, the house reflects designer Sam Sacks' unique blend of '70s cabin chic and Scandinavian design. And on North Thormanby Island (*page 58*), we get to experience a bit of B.C. island life at the home of Sarah and Mike Chiu. Perched just off the Sunshine Coast — one of those dreamy spots we've been meaning to visit — this charming retreat might have just decided the question of where I'll be heading for my summer escape this year.

Here's to discovering the beauty of home — and all that Canada has to offer.

Emma

EMMA REDDINGTON,
Deputy Editor

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Photography by Sian Richards (Emma's portrait)/Ema Peter (cottage exterior)

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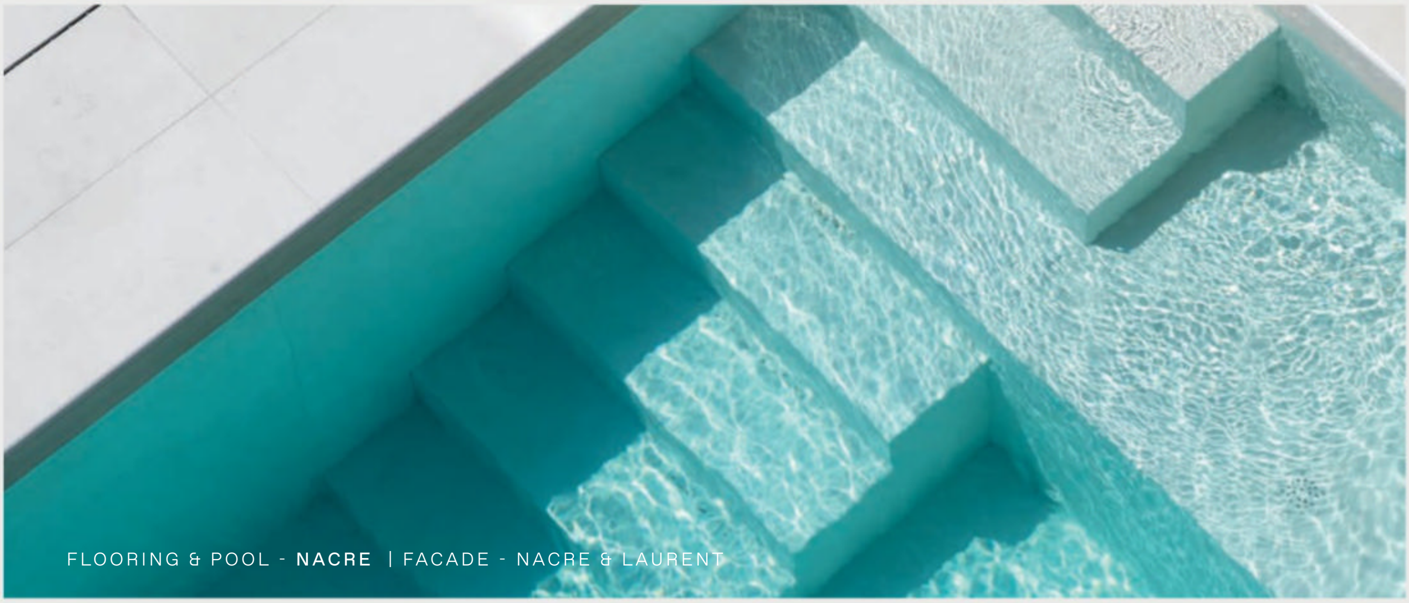

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YOUR LETTERS

OUR READERS HAVE THEIR SAY.

No one can complain about lack of colour or imagination in the May issue! It's the best I've seen in years. What's the point in having so many gorgeous paint colours if nobody uses them? Congrats; it made my month (and took my mind off politics for a bit)!
— K. WALKER, *Kamloops, B.C.*

Thank you for heeding your readers' call and producing a long-awaited, more colourful May issue. Rosie Daykin's home ("This Changes Everything") is a delight of colour and pattern, which reminds me of the more daring and eclectic style of British designers such as Rita Konig or Nina Campbell. I agree with some reader comments on the lack of vibrancy and detail in the photography of recent issues and hope that it's just a temporary glitch.
— CARMEN W., *B.C.*

Gillian Atkins' column is always my first read when I get the new magazine; who doesn't love a good makeover? She delivers time and again. I loved the cost-effective yet impactful suggestions she made for the reader in the May issue. A couple of simple changes can make a world of difference. Thank you for the inspo your magazine and videos bring.
— SONJA BUTLER,
Kansas City, Mo.

How insightful to have someone remark in May's RSVP on the ideal sight line which, heaven forbid, includes the presence of a garbage bin. Thank you, Lynda Reeves, for opening up your beautiful home to the world ("What's Your Kitchen DNA?", March) just to garner such negative derision. I too can view my "refuse receptacle" from various parts in my home. It is, after all, a fact of life.
— P. ZEHR, *Waterloo, Ont.*

I'm happy to see design is finally moving away from grey, but I find the moody hues to be too moody, heavy and dark. I love the botanical bedroom by Zoe Feldman Design (Rooms That Work, May). It's bright, colourful and beautiful; what a lovely change. Good job!
— COLLEEN

Some shops we love in North Vancouver's Edgemont Village neighbourhood are Thestylewell, At Home, Trims and Lewellyn Shoppe.
— LISA W.

Editor's note: *Thank you! Please keep sending us your recommendations for shops by emailing letters@hhmedia.com.*

I was disappointed with the May City Column, which featured Calgary. Missing was my favourite restaurant, Annabelle's Kitchen, Devonian Gardens in the mall downtown and Avant-Garden on the University of Calgary campus. There's so much to see and do in Calgary; I'll be going back for a third time this summer.
— SUSAN H., *Winnipeg*

A note on the letters we're choosing to publish right now... *We've decided to take a pause on publishing letters asking us not to feature certain content. We're celebrating design this issue, but you can continue to find* ***all*** *our reader letters, positive and negative, online at* ***houseandhome.com/rsvp.***

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

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or letters@hhmedia.com

Letters may be edited for publication.

Additional letters will be posted on houseandhome.com/rsvp.

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HERE'S WHAT YOU LOVED ON OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS.

MOST-LIKED INSTAGRAM POST

BOLD STRIPES AND ELEGANT NEUTRALS SHINE ON THIS TERRACE BY AUDAX

MOST-PINNED PHOTO

PHILIP MITCHELL DESIGNED A COLOUR-DRENCHED DOG SHOWER AT HIS FORMER HOME IN CHESTER, N.S.

MOST-POPULAR GALLERY

A WOW LIGHT FIXTURE AND DRAMATIC MARBLE MAKE A STATEMENT IN THIS KITCHEN BY MELANIE HAY

Compiled by Chelsea Dolan/Photography by Patrick Biller (Most-liked)/Annie Schlechter (Most-pinned)/Lauren Miller (Most-popular)/Room design by Audax (Most-liked)/Philip Mitchell (Most-pinned)/Melanie Hay (Most-popular)

July/August

Style FILES

PRODUCED BY GILLIAN ATKINS

GOTTA HAVE IT

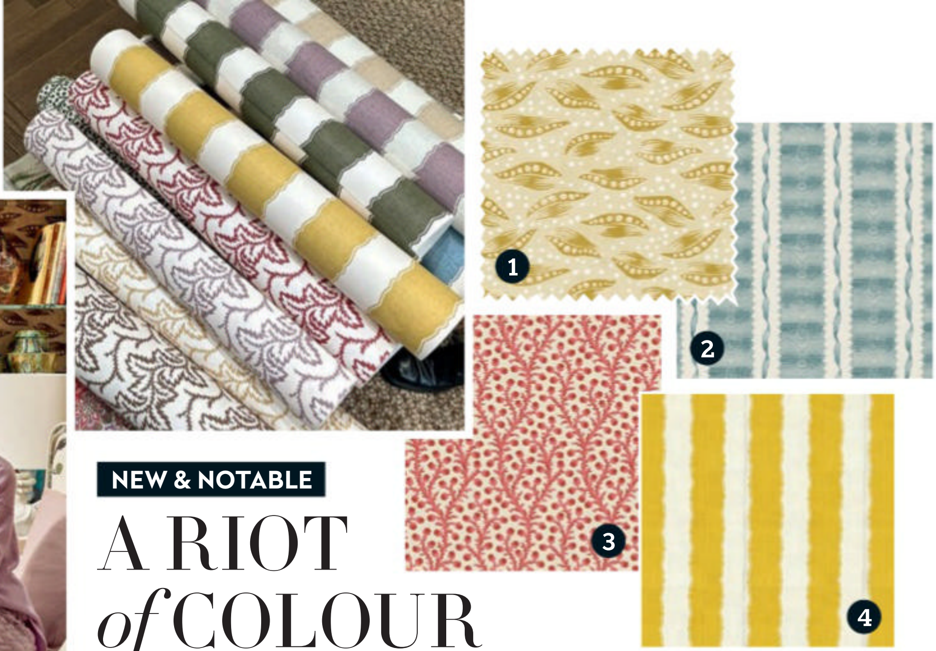
Don't have a beach? No problem. Take this breezy **striped parasol and fold-up chair** to any sunny spot and bask in summer's rays.

Premium ***beach umbrella*** *and The Tommy* ***chair*** *in Lauren's Navy Stripe by Business & Pleasure Co. Through Canadian retailers such as The Coast Goods, The Cottage Boutique and Bradshaws.*

Photography courtesy of Business & Pleasure Co.

SEE SHOPPING LIST

Nicky Haslam (*left*) with Colette van den Thillart.



NEW & NOTABLE

A RIOT *of* COLOUR

H&H fans of **Colette van den Thillart** will be thrilled to learn that her fabric and wallpaper collection, Random Harvest, designed with the U.K.'s beloved überdesigner **Nicky Haslam,** is offering new patterns and colourways. Colette and Nicky share the same eye for bold designs in joyful colours. *All available through colettevandenthillart.com.*

1. *Pearl River* ***fabric*** *in Haystack Yellow.* **2.** *Twist & Shout* ***wallpaper*** *in Heavenly Blue.* **3.** *Waterberry* ***wallpaper*** *in Pomegranate Red.* **4.** *Balcony Stripe* ***wallpaper*** *in Haystack Yellow. All pricing upon request.*

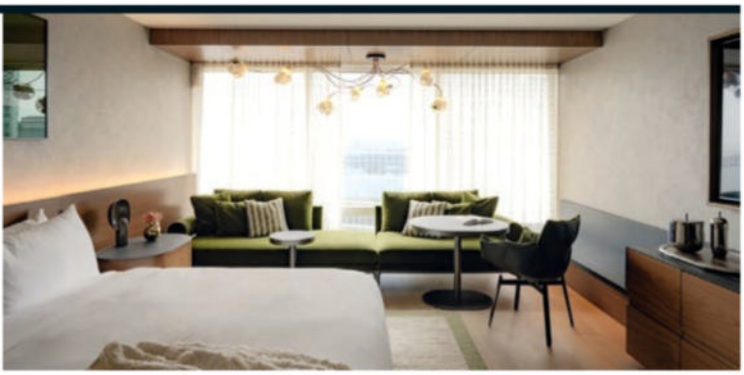
MADE IN CANADA

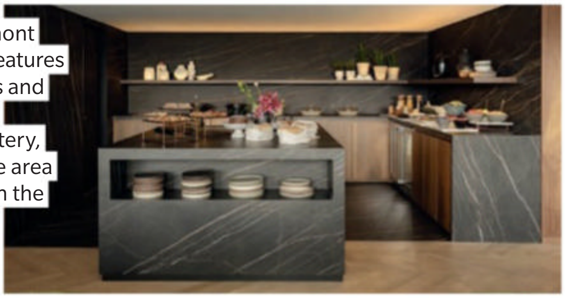
QUEBEC, NATURALLY

Attitude is both a Montreal boutique (*pictured below*) and the name of its extensive line of natural products for household and personal care. Made in Quebec to the highest eco-conscious standards and 100 per cent vegan and cruelty free, the products are available in the plastic-free store or online with delivery across Canada. Now you can shop both Canadian-made and good for the planet!

ATTITUDE
home
essentials

ABOVE: *Home Essentials All-purpose* ***cleaner*** *in Lavender & Rosemary, $13. Through attitudeliving.com.*





ABOVE: The Fairmont Gold guest room features Bocci light fixtures and a B&B Italia sofa. **RIGHT:** Find an eatery, terrace and lounge area on the 20th floor in the members' lounge.

CHECK-IN

Fairmont Pacific Rim

Vancouver's **Fairmont Pacific Rim** hotel just got a gorgeous redo of its guest suites and public spaces by Toronto's Nivek Remas. You'll find lots of rich woods, lush green upholstery, curvy organic shapes, natural stone and giant pots of trees. If all of this reminds you of the natural beauty of our West Coast, the designers have succeeded in their mission to bring the calm majesty of Canada to a landmark Vancouver hotel. Check mark! *1038 Canada Place, Vancouver. Fairmontpacificrim.com.*

Photography by Milo Brown (New & Notable, Nicky and Colette's portrait)/David Dworkind (Made in Canada, boutique)/Conrad Brown, courtesy of Fairmont Pacific Rim (Check-in)/courtesy of CVDT Interior Design (New & Notable, fabric and wallpaper)/Attitude (Made in Canada, cleaner)

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COOL COLLABS

Handwoven pendants created in collaboration with Collaborative Crafts Projects.

POOKY'S NEW PROJECTS

U.K. maker of lamps and lampshades **Pooky Lighting** has four new collections to bring bold colour and craftsmanship to your home. The collections include one that features the work of Zimbabwean artisans (*above*). This social enterprise is dedicated to preserving the cultural heritage of the nation, using ilala palm leaves to weave the lampshades. Not only are the shades beautiful, but they also provide economic opportunity that will have a positive social impact where it's needed most. For summer, the Novogratz collection offers 14 pieces for outdoors, featuring the whimsical, colourful designs that Pooky is best known for. *All available online, shipping to Canada from the U.K.*

RIGHT: *The Harpen Outdoor Metal* ***chaises longues*** *in Dove Ticking Stripe Fabric, $2,199 each.*

LEFT: *The Hartford Wood* ***outdoor lounge chairs*** *in Oat Sailcloth Fabric, $1,599 each. All at Crate & Barrel.*

CRATE & BARREL x JAKE ARNOLD

A new collection of outdoor furniture is in Canada's **Crate & Barrel** stores and online, featuring **Jake Arnold**'s personal blend of English design with a dose of Hollywood glam. Find lots of wovens, wood and iron in classic silhouettes just in time for summer living. While you're there, check out the designer's first children's line, Jake Arnold for Crate & Kids. *All in stores now.*

RIGHT: Designers Louisa Pierce (*left*) and Emily Ward. **BELOW:** Moody hues and vintage touches.

WEST ELM x PIERCE & WARD

If you hadn't heard of **Louisa Pierce and Emily Ward,** you have now. Rising stars in the design world, they bring a layered, soulful eye that gives off a sense of lived-in luxury and comfort. **West Elm** has launched more than 100 pieces in a collection that ranges from furniture and lighting to ready-made drapes and bedding. Find them in West Elm's Canadian locations and online.

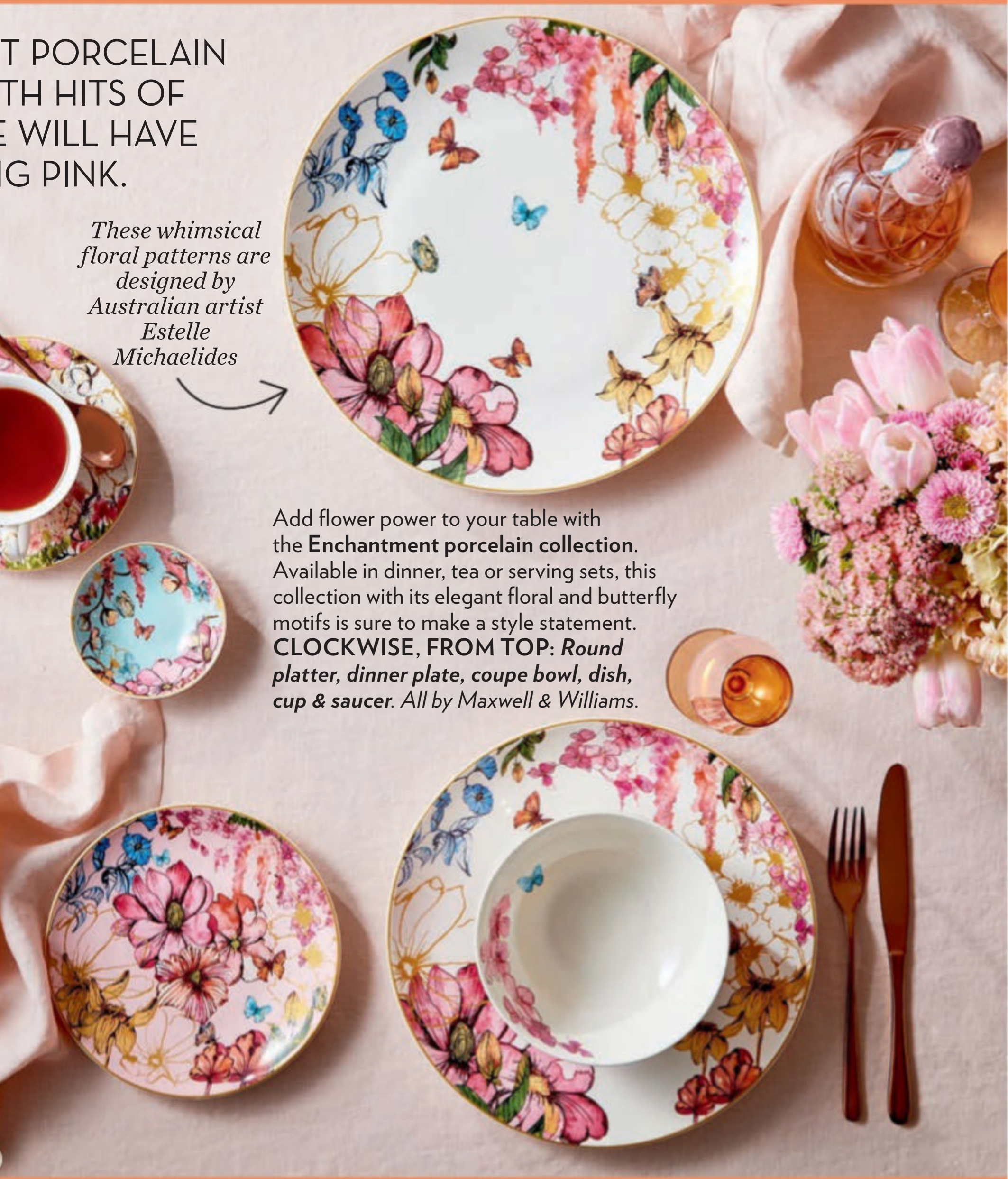
ABOVE, FROM LEFT: *16" Lacquered* ***nightstand,*** *$749; Floral Grid* ***pillow cover,*** *$82; 48" Bentwood* ***sofa*** *in Golden Oak, $1,799; Painted* ***salad plate,*** *$96/set of 4. All at West Elm.*

Photography courtesy of Pooky Lighting (Cool Collabs, Pooky Lighting products)/Crate & Barrel (Cool Collabs, Crate & Barrel x Jake Arnold)/West Elm (Cool Collabs, West Elm x Pierce & Ward)

The Summer TABLE

THE ENCHANTMENT PORCELAIN COLLECTION WITH HITS OF LEMON AND LIME WILL HAVE YOU THINKING PINK.

Embrace pink by complementing your table with nude linens, a blush-hued tea or rosé, and fresh florals. ***Teapot with infuser, cup & saucer, side plate.***



These whimsical floral patterns are designed by Australian artist Estelle Michaelides

Add flower power to your table with the **Enchantment porcelain collection**. Available in dinner, tea or serving sets, this collection with its elegant floral and butterfly motifs is sure to make a style statement. **CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP:** ***Round platter, dinner plate, coupe bowl, dish, cup & saucer***. *All by Maxwell & Williams.*

FROM TOP: ***Coupe bowl, side plates, cake stand***.

Photography courtesy of Canfloyd and Maxwell & Williams

SEE STUNNING DINNERWARE COLLECTIONS
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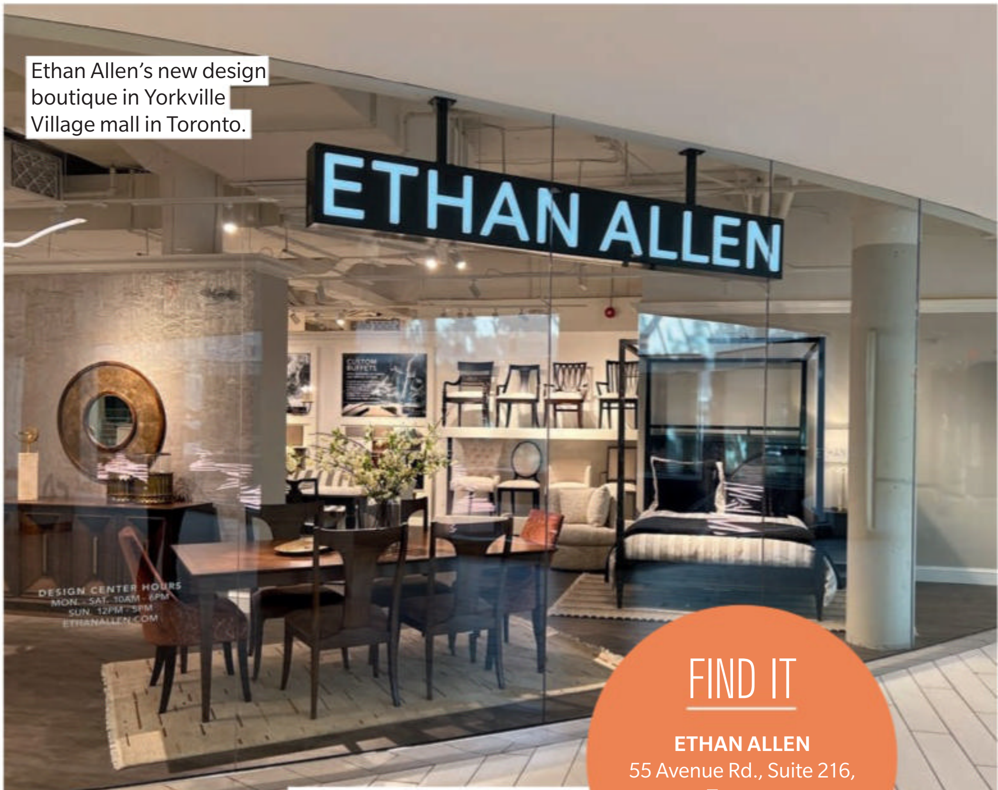
Canfloyd

The new Moroccan-inspired rug collection is made from 100 per cent hand-knotted wool.



Ethan Allen's new design boutique in Yorkville Village mall in Toronto.

SHOP

ETHAN ALLEN

Toronto's Yorkville Village is now home to Canada's newest **Ethan Allen** store. The brand's classic design aesthetic is on show, but so is the latest in technology to help customers envision their rooms using 3D digital design. There are designers on hand to help, offering complimentary design services. The 4,000-square-foot showroom also features add-ons including rugs, accessories, lighting and custom window coverings. As always, furniture can be customized to suit.

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ABOVE: This vignette features a classic tuxedo sofa with a tufted back.

1. *Tristan **display cabinet** in Dakota, $8,580.* **2.** *Winslet Exposed Wood **lounge chair** in Sierra Bayleaf, $3,370.* **3.** *Berkshire **bench** in Charcoal, $2,450. Multiple finishes and fabrics are available online and in-store.*

Photography courtesy of Ethan Allen

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
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NEW & NOTABLE

STILL STOCKHOLM

At **Ikea,** some collections are fleeting and some last forever. Stockholm 2025 features the iconic pieces that have been part of the legacy brand since the 1980s, plus new designs in the same modern Scandinavian design. There are 96 offerings in the collection, which has a focus on solid woods, wool, leather, linen, ceramics and handblown glass. *In stores and online now.*

***Table** in Oak-veneer, $799; **chairs** in Oak-leather, $250 each; 7'10" x 11'6" Flatwoven **rug** in White-brown-light blue Handwoven, $699.*

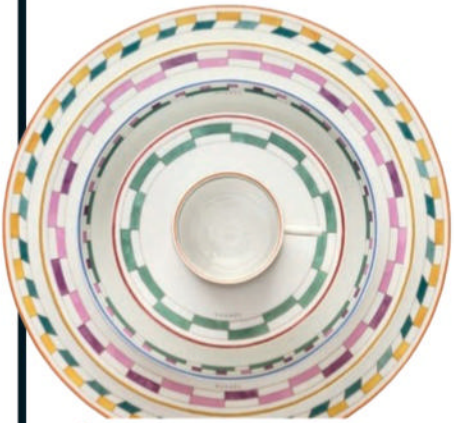
***Sofa** in Alhamn Dark Brown, $2,590; **coffee table** in Dark Brown Oak Veneer, $229.*

ABOVE: *Footstool,* *$399; 5'7" x 7'10" Flatwoven **rug** in Green-white-black Handwoven, $499.*
RIGHT: *Cabinet* *with Sliding Doors in Rattan-pine, $499; **sofa** in Sundhamn Beige, $1,990. All at Ikea.*

NEW & NOTABLE

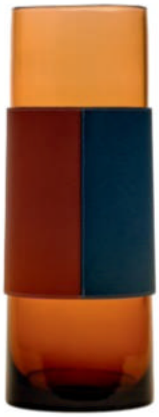
Hermès at Salone del Mobile in Milan

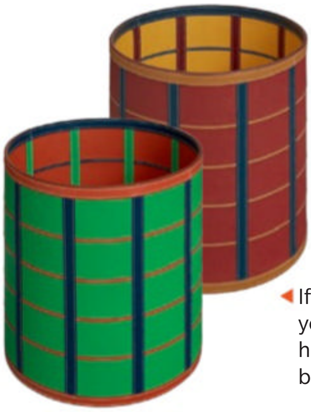
Just a few of the standout designs from a vast new collection by Hermès — coming soon!



▲ The 33-piece kaolin porcelain dinner service with hand-drawn and painted motifs by artist Nigel Peake is both modern and charming.

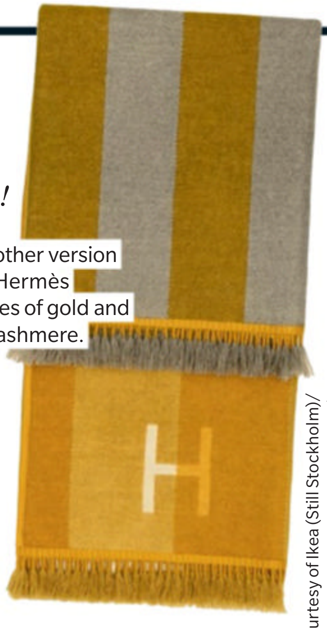
▼ From a master glassmaker comes oversized vases in molten glass wrapped in leather cuffs. Beautiful enough to leave empty.





◀ If these leather baskets remind you of something, it's the traditional horse blankets you see in those beautiful images of horses at rest.

▶ Here's yet another version of the iconic Hermès throw in shades of gold and grey in luxe cashmere.



Photography courtesy of Ikea (Still Stockholm)/ Hermès (Hermès at Salone del Mobile in Milan)

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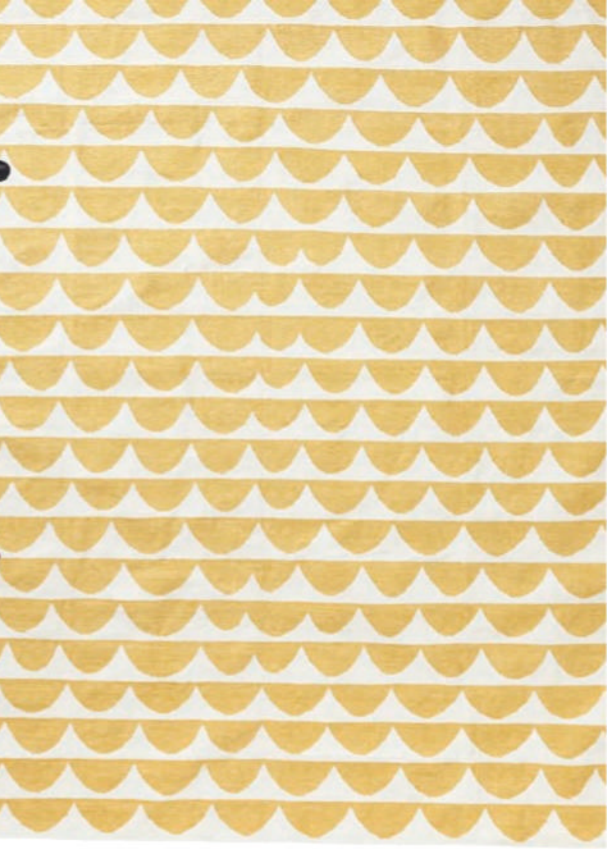

NEW & NOW

This month's favourites from the world of design.

Produced by EMMA REDDINGTON
Text by CHELSEA DOLAN

1. FLOATING ON AIR Make a splash with the **Loon pool float** fabricated in hard-wearing vinyl. *72" h. x 84" l. $80. Float-Eh.*

2. ON THE SAME WAVELENGTH Handwoven with recycled polyester, the **Papajo Performance outdoor rug,** created in collaboration with Marimekko, features a striking pattern inspired by Mayan carvings. *In Papaya. 8' x 10'. $1,199. West Elm.*

3. WOVEN WONDER The **Nisa outdoor armchair** sports a curved backrest, weatherproof rope detailing and quick-dry cushions, perfect for lounging on the terrace. *By Edi & Paolo Ciani. 31½" h. x 37" w. x 31½" d. $999. Mobilia.*

4. FEEL THE HEAT With a cantilevered silhouette, the **Eclipse Smart-heat Portable electric heater** has dimmable LED lighting and a cool '70s vibe. *By Bromic. 98" h. x 28" w. x 90" d. $5,233. ARD Outdoor.*

5. INTO THE BLUE Retro florals and bold stripes on the **Gullbergsö throw pillows** add a hit of colour and pattern on your patio. *19⅝" sq. $32/pair (including inserts). Ikea.*

6. TABLE TALK The concrete **Calabasas outdoor dining table** is ideal for alfresco dinners with its stylish fluted base and terrazzo composite top. *30" h. x 79" l. x 36" w. $5,175. Arcadia Modern Home.*

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MORE OR LESS

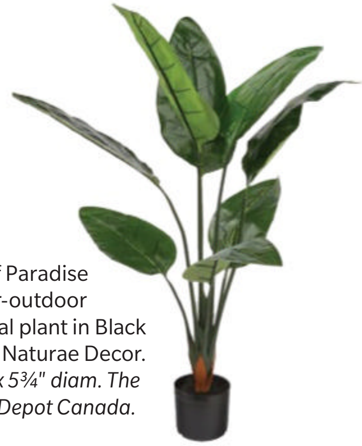
Bring a lush, tropical vibe to a casual corner.

Produced by **STACY BEGG**

FAUX TROPICAL PLANT

$420
Zapo Bird of Paradise Potted artificial plant. *60" h. x 7" diam. Artiplanto.*

$169
X-large Kani Travellers Potted Palm artificial plant. *84" h. x 6" diam. Urban Barn.*



$80
Bird of Paradise Indoor-outdoor artificial plant in Black Pot by Naturae Decor. *45" h. x 5¾" diam. The Home Depot Canada.*

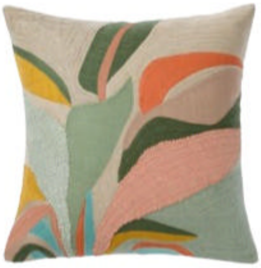
ROUND COFFEE TABLE

$2,495
Wenrick Reclaimed Pine coffee table. *16" h. x 48" diam. Mkt.*

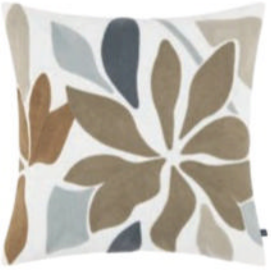
$1,798
Kalla Oak and Oak Veneer coffee table with Brushed Gold Finish Base by Kemhome for Sunpan. *15" h. x 44" diam. Light House Co.*

$890
Fiammetta Hardwood with Oak and Mango Veneers coffee table with Casters in Brown Top and Base by Latitude Run. *19" h. x 36" diam. Wayfair Canada.*

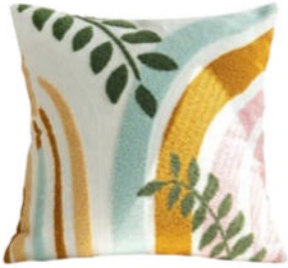
EMBROIDERED ACCENT PILLOW



$101
Botanical Crewel Cotton throw pillow cover with Down Insert. *18" sq. West Elm.*



$54
Sota Floral Linen and Polyester throw pillow. *20" sq. Urban Barn.*



$30*
Modern Boho Cotton and Acrylic throw pillow cover by Smiling Onion. *18" sq. Amazon.*

SECTIONAL SOFA

$5,195
Hunter Chaise sofa in Heritage Green Velvet. *31½" h. x 115" w. x 70" d. Elte.*

$3,400
Jättebo 4-Seat Mod sofa with Chaise Lounge in Samsala Dark Yellow-green by Ola Wihlborg. *28" h. x 122" w. x 63" d. Ikea.*

$2,435
Ciello 3-Seater sofa with Chaise in Cypress Green. *25¾" h. x 106" w. x 68½" d. Cozey.*

*Insert not included

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Sustainable Summer

Conscious choices for the season and beyond.

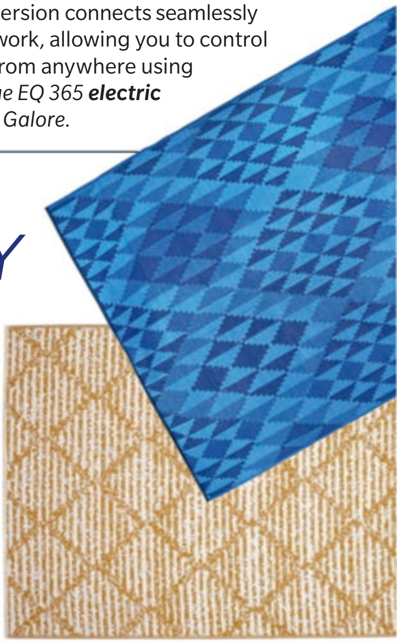
By **EMMA REDDINGTON**

SWEET SEAT

Designed 15 years ago by Jean-Marie Massaud, the iconic Seashell Nuo collection from **Dedon** has been updated with new EcoCycle Fiber derived from sugarcane, a 90 per cent renewable, plant-based alternative to fossil fuel–based products. It offers the same appearance and texture as proven Dedon Fiber along with strength and weather resistance. *Seashell Grand* ***wing chair*** *in Oasis and Tucson Magnet, pricing upon request. Studio b.*

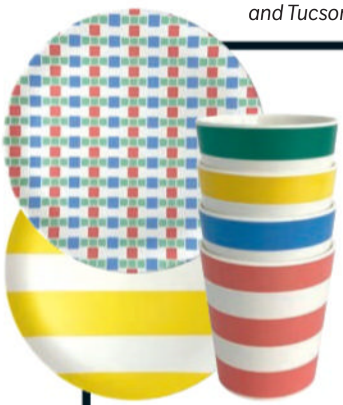
Wired GRILL

Napoleon's Rogue EQ electric grill blends cutting-edge technology with a green ethos. Gone are the days when electric grills were small and portable, or for indoor use only. This full-size version connects seamlessly to your home Wi-Fi network, allowing you to control and monitor your grill from anywhere using your smartphone. *Rogue EQ 365* ***electric grill,*** *$2,299. Barbecues Galore.*



TREAD LIGHTLY

Crafted from recycled plastic that's been transformed into straw-like yarn, these lightweight indoor-outdoor rugs from Canadian small business **Erbanica** are a beautiful, eco-friendly option for any space. *Indoor-outdoor* ***rugs,*** *$160 each. Erbanica.*



INNOVATIVE IDEA

Chop Shop

The latest bamboo and melamine tableware collection from Toronto's **Xenia Taler** is perfect for patios or poolside. Made by grounding down the scrap waste from chopstick factories that would otherwise be discarded, the tableware is manufactured with minimal water and energy — especially compared to ceramic iterations — and is free of PVC, BPA and phthalates. ***Plates,*** *from $12 each; Stripe* ***cup,*** *$36/set of 4. All at Xenia Taler.*

FULL TILT

Debuting at the 2025 Salone del Mobile in Milan, the Tilt + Shift collection is by Canadian design studio **Stackabl** in collaboration with architecture and design firm **Rockwell Group.** The table and floor lamps combine an infinitely recyclable cork base with a stacked felt disk shade made from remnant merino wool. Stackabl's goal is to divert 500 tons of textile waste from landfills by 2029. *Tilt 11* ***table lamp,*** *from approx. $414. LightForm.*

Photography by Patrick Biller (lamp)/courtesy of Dedon (chair)/Napolean (grill)/Erbanica (rugs)/Xenia Taler (tableware)/Room design by Superkül (lamp)

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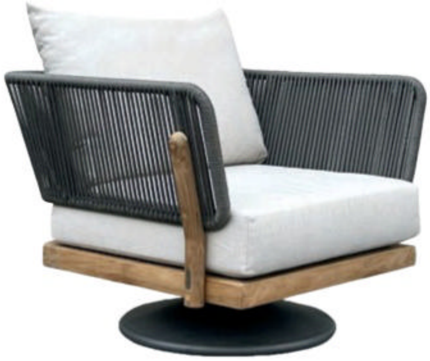
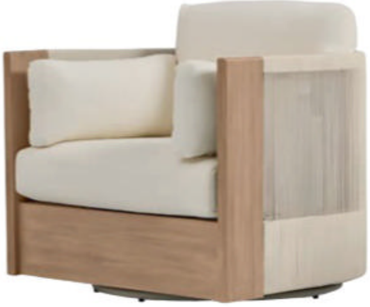
TURN AROUND

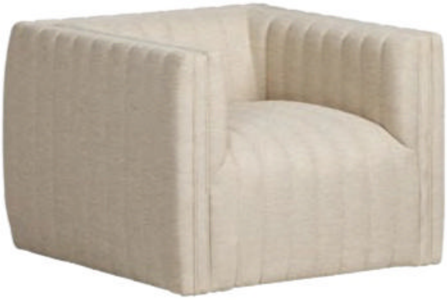
Nine outdoor swivel chairs, perfect for alfresco lounging or dining.

Produced by **GILLIAN ATKINS** | *Text by* **CHELSEA DOLAN**



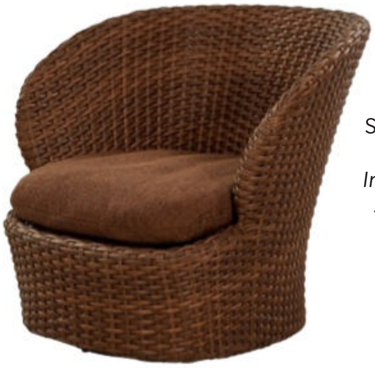
ELORA With a teak frame and Sunbrella cushion, this modern seat is ultradurable for humid weather. *In Natural Teak and Sand Rope. 30" h. x 38" w. x 34" d. $2,385. Casualife.*



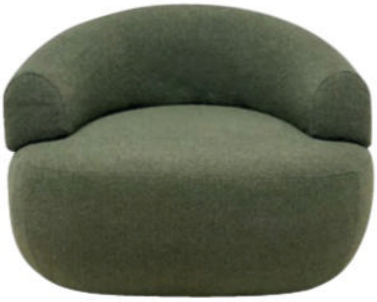


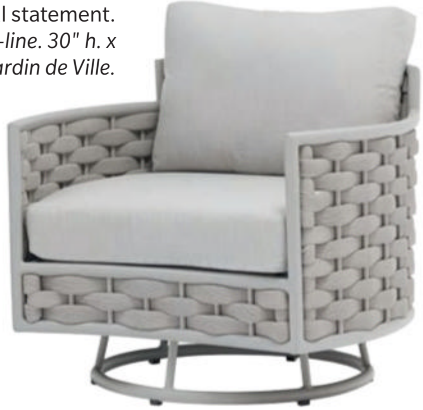
AUGUSTINE A contemporary, library-style lounger by Four Hands with channelled olefin upholstery. *In Casa Cream. 26¾" h. x 35½" w. x 35½" d. $4,462. Arcadia Modern Home.*

PORTO The curved mahogany frame, nylon cord detailing and cream olefin cushion exude sleek Scandi style. *In Reef and Alabaster. 27" h. x 34½" w. x 33½" d. $2,099. West Elm.*



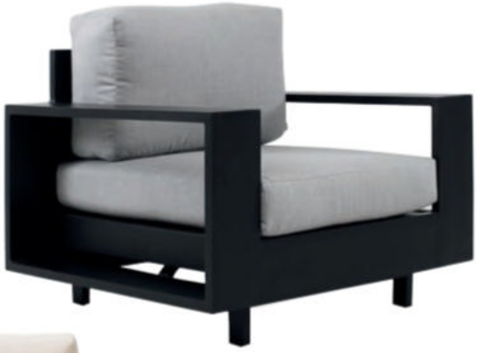
COAST Monochromatic in brown wicker and a quick-drying Sunbrella cushion, a handsome seat that makes a sculptural statement. *In Umber Brown by Cane-line. 30" h. x 33" w. x 31" d. $3,255. Jardin de Ville.*



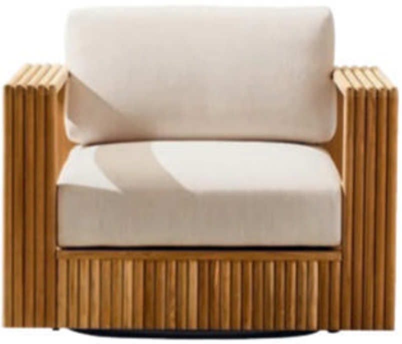


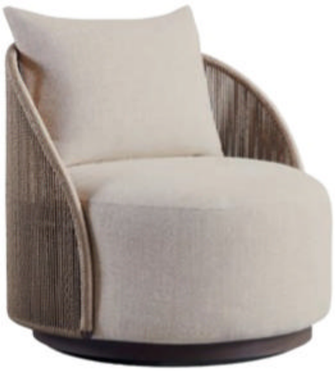
AURA This minimalist bubble chair has a removable cover for easy cleaning. *In Zenith Fabric in Dark Olive. 30¾" h. x 39½" w. x 37" d. $1,577. King Living.*

LOOP The braided max rope frame is topped with greige acrylic cushions that float above an aluminum swivel base. *By Couture Jardin. 28½" h. x 33" w. x 32⅓" d. $2,899. InsideOut.*



HAYLEY ROCKER The boxy aluminum frame and high-contrast palette bring modern edge to a patio. *In Matte Black Aluminum. 28" h. x 34" w. x 34" d. $1,895. ARD Outdoor.*





MILAN This neutral club chair boasts a solid plinth base and textured, twisted rope backrest. *In Siesta Taupe, Aluminum Bronze and Twisted Dune Rope by Harrison and Nicholas Condos for Harbour. 30⅓" h. x 34" w. x 32⅘" d. $6,825. Elte.*

TOPIA Teak slats combine with crisp white Sunbrella cushions for a luxe, beachy look. *In Teak and Pumice by Mermelada Estudio. 29" h. x 35½" w. x 35½" d. $3,499. CB2.*

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Summer's Bounty

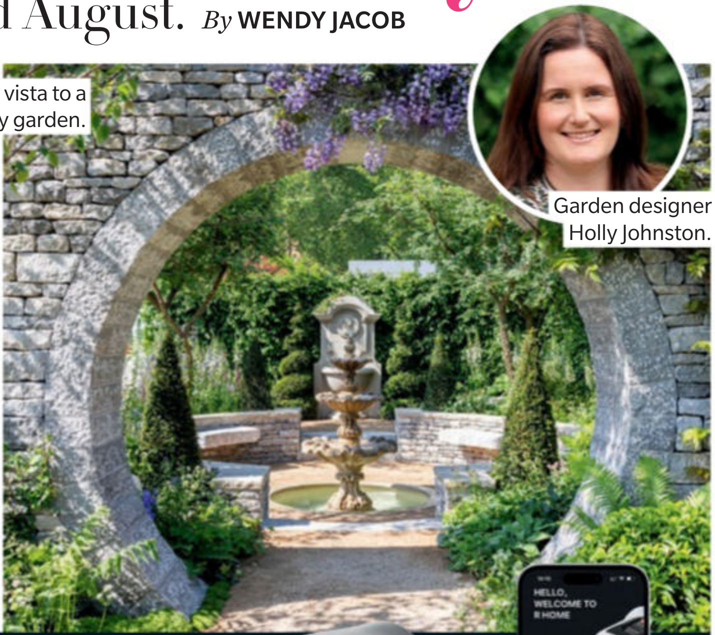
What to do in July and August. *By* **WENDY JACOB**

TRENDING

MOON GATES

The *Bridgerton*-inspired moon gate by garden designer Holly Johnston was a wow moment at the 2024 RHS Chelsea Flower Show. In Chinese culture, moon gates are considered good luck to those who pass through them. Mimic the look with this arbour: train a fast-growing vine over the supports and the winding leaves will give a fairy-tale effect.

Arch-arbour *with Gate by Panacea. 90" h. x 50" w. x 18" d. $200. Canadian Tire.*



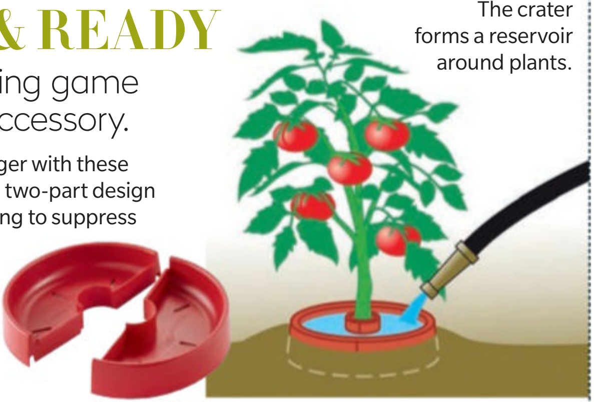
RIGHT: A moon gate frames the vista to a *Bridgerton*-inspired sanctuary garden.

Garden designer Holly Johnston.

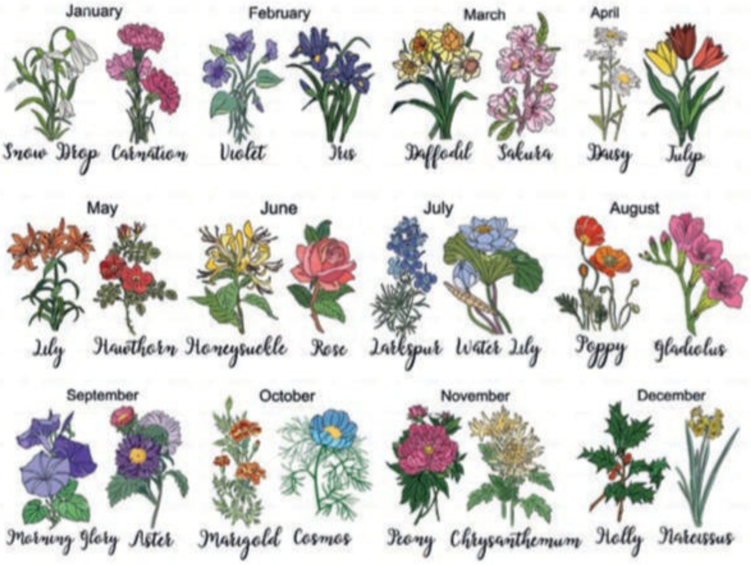
RED, RIPE & READY

Upgrade your growing game with this tomato accessory.

Grow tomatoes faster and bigger with these **reusable tomato craters**. The two-part design is easy to snap around a seedling to suppress weeds, block cutworms and concentrate water at the roots to help prevent blossom-end rot. ***Tomato craters,*** *$42/set of 3. Lee Valley.*



The crater forms a reservoir around plants.


January
Snow Drop
Carnation
February
Violet
Iris
March
Daffodil
Sakura
April
Daisy
Tulip
May
Lily
Hawthorn
June
Honeysuckle
Rose
July
Larkspur
Water Lily
August
Poppy
Gladiolus
September
Morning Glory
Aster
October
Marigold
Cosmos
November
Peony
Chrysanthemum
December
Holly
Narcissus

Birth Flowers

Similar to gemstones, every month has birth flowers, which are usually tied to the season in which they bloom. Give a bouquet of birth flowers for a special occasion, or plant a family bed including flowers from every family member's birth month.

HELLO, WELCOME TO R HOME
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COOL TOOL

ROBO MOWER

This **robotic mower** has smart path planning for full-lawn coverage per 70-minute charge, and it remembers its previous route after recharging or relocating. It will detect any cable breaks in the boundary via an app, so there's no need to dig up boundary wires, and smart sensing technology will adjust the blade height and cutting force to slice through dense grass. ***Robot lawn mower*** *by Redroad, $560. Amazon.*

Calming Effect

This **portable electric fountain** supplies the subtle, burbling sounds of a water feature — without the maintenance of a pond. At just five and a quarter inches high, the pretty accent doubles as a lantern for parties. *Floral* ***tabletop fountain*** *by Woodstock Elements, $115. Sheridan Nurseries.*

Photography by Oliver Dixon (Holly's portrait)/Lanabrovinska1, Dreamstime (birth flower chart)/courtesy of Panacea (arch-arbour)/RHS, Sarah Cuttle (moon gate garden)/Lee Valley (tomato crater, tomato plant)/Redroad (mower)/Canfloyd (tabletop fountain)

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Stealth Cabin by superkül | **Photo** by Shai Gil Fotography

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MUST READS

Relaxed global style and summer decorating tips from U.K. author Ali Heath.

By **WENDY JACOB**

Designer Bee Osborn used this Cotswolds shepherd's hut as a bolt-hole during the renovation of her cottage.

In this converted former bakery just outside Paris, a lofty, industrial living room leads to a leafy terrace.

Ali Heath's previous books include 2021's *Curate* and 2023's *Create*.

U.K. writer and stylist Ali Heath has written a third book, *Cocoon: Creating Homes with Heart,* featuring beautiful homes from around the world that show cocooning in different ways. "We're each our own home," says Ali. "Taking care of ourselves and prioritizing cocooning surroundings that feel good to touch is more than simply a place to shelter. This human touch speaks to our soul and affects us emotionally." We asked Ali for advice on making homes feel comfortable, and on decorating for summer.

COCOON
CREATING HOMES WITH HEART
ALI HEATH

Cocoon: Creating Homes with Heart by Ali Heath. Mitchell Beazley, 2025, $50.

HOUSE & HOME: ***What are some of your favourite ways to make a home feel better?***

ALI HEATH: Don't hanker for what you don't have. Social media can make many feel their home isn't good enough. Being happy with what you have is about how your space nurtures and cocoons you. Big budgets don't always equal relaxing spaces: when you love your home for what it is, it becomes easier to find happiness and to feel settled.

H&H: ***The homes in this book are from all over the world. What makes them special?***

AH: The interiors are all very personal, and the ideas can translate from country to country. In our world, where trends tend to be homogenous, these spaces feel like a breath of fresh air — a celebration of creativity and a life less ordinary.

H&H: ***Can you share your summer styling and decorating tips?***

AH: Reorganize cupboards for outdoor entertaining — there's nothing more welcoming than a well-dressed alfresco table adorned with big platters, sharing boards and fresh crockery. Create opportunities to slow down with a reading nook by a bright window, or a blanket draped over a bench to watch the sun go down. Add decorative layers to enhance the moment, like a bar cart in the garden. Growing herbs injects a wonderful aroma into outdoor spaces. Fill summer baths with fragrant lavender and tied bundles of herbs to scent your home and help you relax.

Photography by Brent Darby (Ali's portrait, bedroom, book cover)/Grégory Timsit (living room)/Styling by Ali Heath (bedroom)

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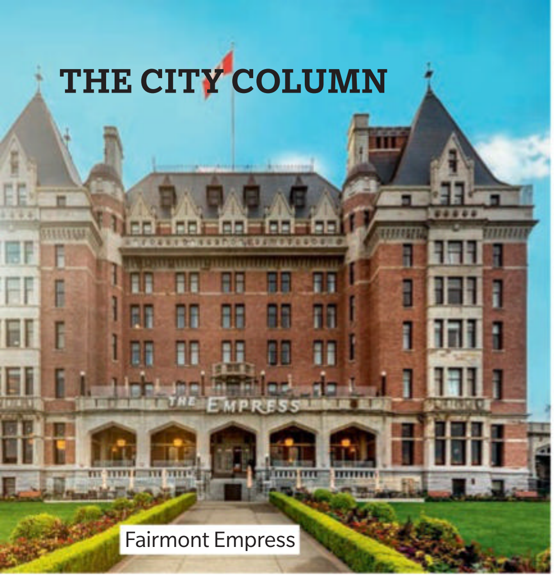

Fairmont Empress

Ugly Duckling Dining & Provisions

The Butchart Gardens

VICTORIA

By **MARYAM SIDDIQI**

Summer calls for an island getaway — explore B.C.'s beautiful capital city for its stately Victorian architecture, world-class attractions, incredible farm-to-table dining, plus fabulous shops, galleries, museums and gardens.

WHERE TO STAY

Classic: Fairmont Empress

Known as "the castle on the coast," the Empress boasts beautiful views of Victoria's Inner Harbour. Have a cocktail at Q Bar and enjoy a session at the spa, which includes a sauna and steam room. *721 Government St., fairmont-empress.com*

Classic: Sooke Harbour House

Located 40 kilometres outside the city on the shores of the Salish Sea, Sooke Harbour House reopened in 2024 after a four-year renovation. Guest rooms have expansive ocean vistas and art by local creatives. Dine on fresh seafood and seasonal produce at the hotel's farm-to-table restaurant. *1528 Whiffin Spit Rd., Sooke, B.C., sookeharbourhouse.com*

Sooke Harbour House

WHERE TO EAT

New: Ugly Duckling Dining & Provisions

Since opening in 2023, this Asian fusion restaurant has become a foodie destination. The tasting menu changes often; indulge in pork belly bao, Haida Gwaii halibut and Canadian Wagyu. *543 Fisgard St., uglyducklingrestaurant.ca*

Classic: Cafe Brio

Serving up incredible Italian dishes for a quarter of a century. Everything here is made in-house, from bread to cured meats to ice cream. Try the Brio Family Meal, a chef-chosen selection of six dishes intended for sharing. *944 Fort St., cafebrio.com*

WHAT TO SEE

New: Havn

The Nordic-inspired hydrotherapy circuit is located on a repurposed marine barge right in the Inner Harbour. Enjoy a unique wellness experience in the heart of the city. *920 Wharf St., havnsaunas.com*

Classic: The Butchart Gardens

Thanks to its sprawling 22 hectares, winding paths and quiet corners, it's easy to find a peaceful part of the gardens just for you. See thousands of colourful blooms and, if you're visiting on Saturday evening, bring a blanket so you can catch the fireworks after sunset. *800 Benvenuto Ave., Brentwood Bay, B.C., butchartgardens.com*

Royal BC Museum

Classic: Royal BC Museum

Visit the museum for these exhibitions: *Global Threads: The Art and Fashion of Indian Chintz* explores the cultural significance of India's vibrant textiles, and *Beyond the Beat: Music of Resistance and Change* delves into the role music has played in social change. *675 Belleville St., royalbcmuseum.bc.ca*

WHERE TO SHOP

The House of Chester

Minimalists will love the thoughtful collection of Danish and mid-century modern furniture in this Design District showroom. Find stunning furniture and lighting by &Tradition, sculptural woodworking from Portuguese brand De La Espada and more. *536 Herald St., Suite 201, thehouseofchester.com*

GR Shop by Gabriel Ross

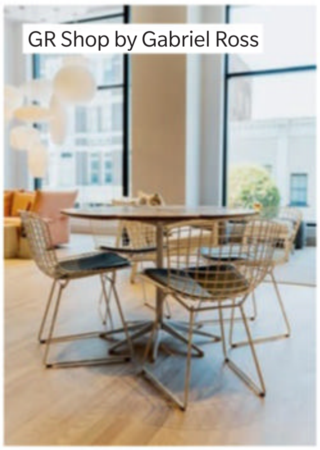
An institution for modern and contemporary furniture in the city. Shop iconic brands including B&B Italia, Knoll, Humanscale and Moooi. *1319 Government St., grshop.com*

Pigeonhole Home Store

Revel in owner Carey Salvador's beautiful curation of home goods. Discover vintage marble dishware, brass measuring cups, made-in-Canada tea towels and more. *1606 Stanley Ave., pigeonholehomestore.com*

InsideOut Homestore

From slipcovered sofas to sisal rugs, InsideOut is all natural textures, coastal style and beach vibes. Owner Sue Toby sources many pieces from local and Canadian makers. *1627 Store St., insideoutvictoria.com*


GR Shop by Gabriel Ross

Photography by Matt Shannon Photography (Fairmont Empress)/Dominic Hall (restaurant)/courtesy of Ugly Duckling Dining & Provisions (dish)/ The Butchart Gardens (gardens)/ Royal BC Museum (textiles)/ Sooke Harbour House (Sooke Harbour House)/GR Shop by Gabriel Ross (shop interior)

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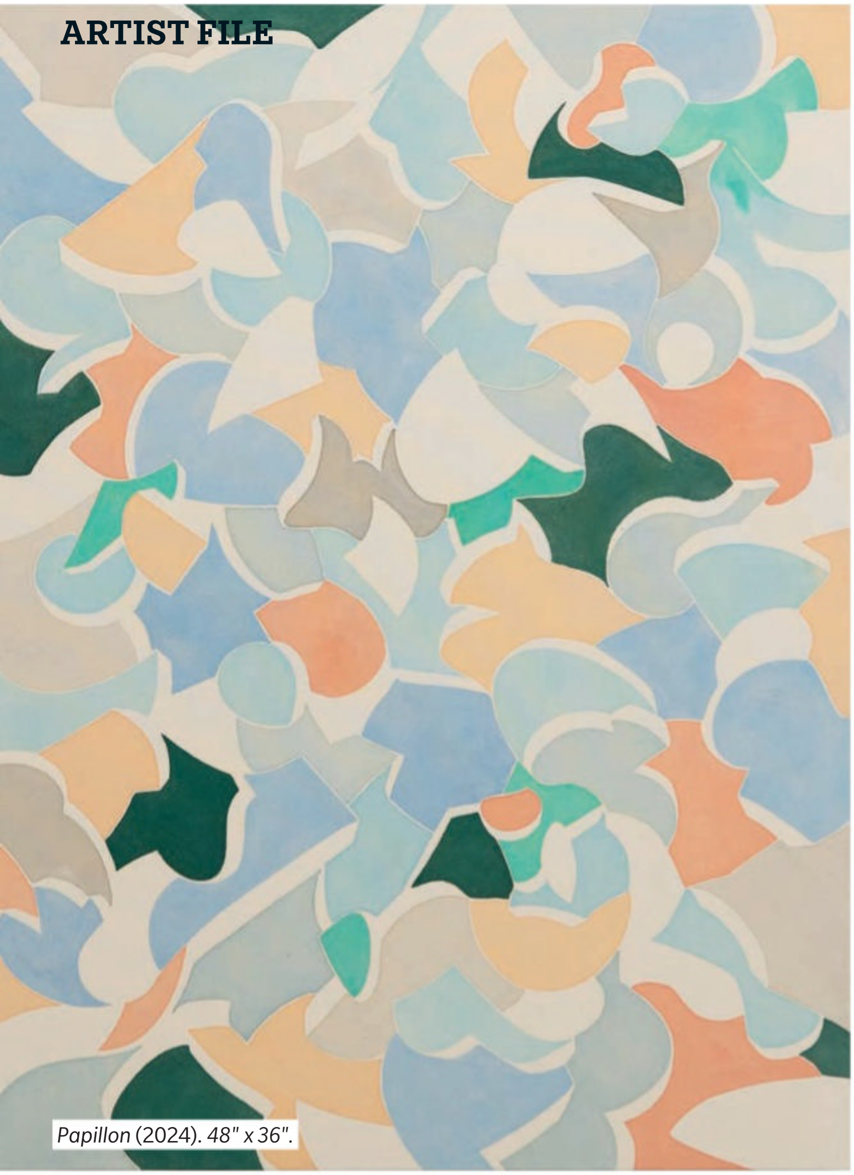


Papillon (2024). 48" x 36".

HOLDING PATTERN

Montreal artist Shawn Kuruneru creates vibrant paintings anchored in drawing, inspired by both Eastern and Western art.

By **DIANA HAMM**

Artist Shawn Kuruneru with *Parallel Lives* (2024). 60" x 48".

THE ARTIST: Shawn Kuruneru is an artist who has conflated a range of influences, from music to comics to Chinese ink painting to abstract expressionism, in order to form his own visual language. Rooted in drawing but executed in paint, his work has crisp lines that create a pleasing contrast between paint and raw canvas. Shawn's interest in music is immediately apparent in the rhythmic gestures and lyricism seen in the repeated forms and colours in his works. Each painting has its own beat, and viewers can feel the movement in it.

THE WORKS: Like most artists, Shawn's practice has developed over time, informed by things he grew up with. He was first drawn to drawing; he loved connecting with people using pen and paper and was constantly drawing everywhere, every chance he got. As Shawn went deeper into his practice, he started researching the medium of ink itself, pushing the boundaries of drawing while simultaneously becoming fascinated by Chinese landscape painting, also in ink. (Shawn's mom is from Hong Kong and he grew up in a Chinese household.) This interest led him to Floating Perspective, a Chinese philosophy where multiple perspectives shift and change within one picture. In contrast, Shawn, having grown up in Ontario, also found himself constantly exposed to works by the Group of Seven. Eventually, all of these influences came together to become Shawn's unique concept of landscape and abstraction.

Diana Hamm of WK ART is a Toronto art adviser. A graduate of Sotheby's Institute of Art in London, U.K., Diana focuses on contemporary art and discovering emerging artists. She also advises private clients on acquisitions and collection-building. *Find out more at wkart.ca.*

Photography by Malina Corpadean (Shawn's portrait)/Adam Moco (Diana's portrait)/Jessann Reece, courtesy of Cooper Cole (art)

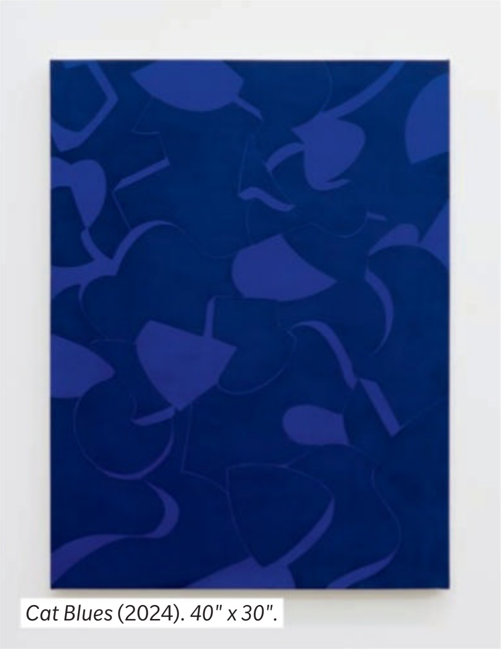
SEE SHOPPING LIST

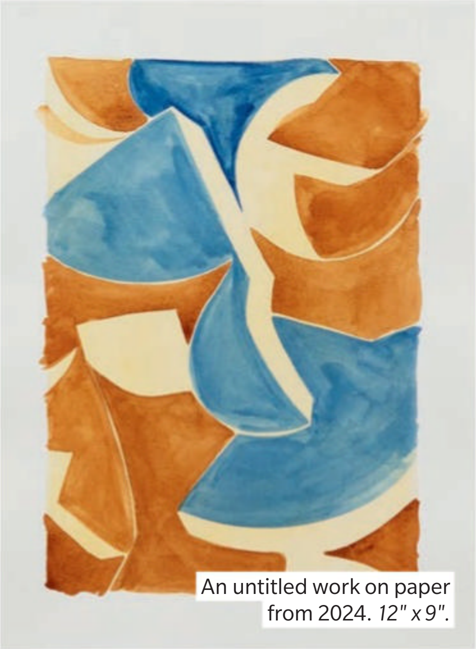
Papillon exemplifies Shawn's current practice. The rhythmic shapes are so crisp that they appear to have been stencilled. In actuality, the shapes have been painted spontaneously by hand. His practised restraint allows the negative space to be as important as the painted forms themselves. "I feel my way through the painting and the end always surprises me," says Shawn.

In *Dyan,* the forms take on a three-dimensional feel, allowing the angles to be their own characters. "I was thinking about the space in between the shapes," he says. "That space has evolved since my early shape paintings, which were more flat. Now the paintings look like layered, blocky shapes, but they're never fully complete — the viewer's eye connects the empty spaces to form the 3D effect."

Shawn paints in a watered-down acrylic that stains the canvas, with certain shapes bleeding into one another like ink. "Sometimes, one wet shape will bump up against another, causing a colour-burst effect." Inspired by both abstract expressionist Lee Krasner and traditional Chinese landscape painting methods, his soft washes have become integral in his practice.

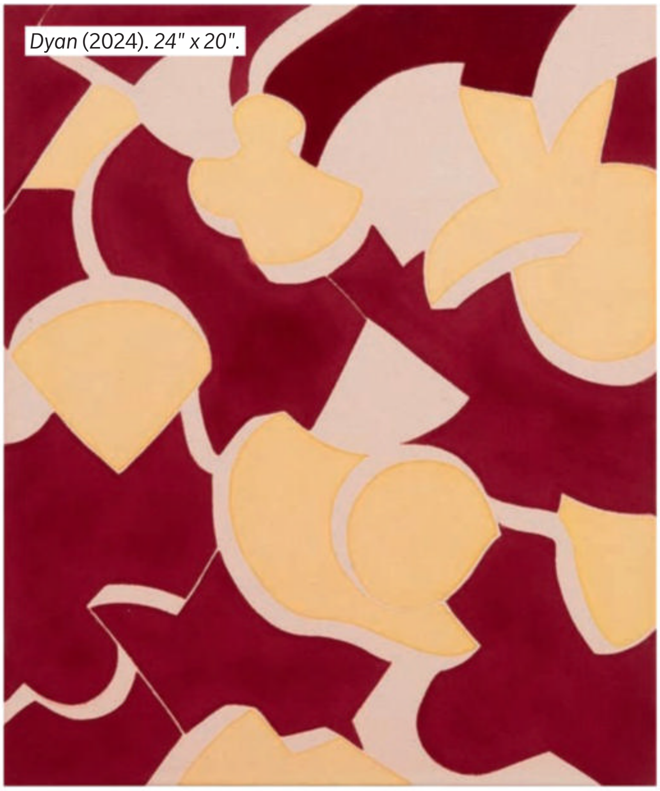
For his latest exhibition at Toronto's Cooper Cole gallery, Shawn included a series of smaller works on paper. What I like about this series is that he's exploring different techniques, a different medium — in this case, watercolour — and the smaller scale encourages a different approach. His larger canvases require a certain physicality that's dependent on his body and arm reaching out to complete a shape, and walking around the painting itself. In these works, the physicality is almost reversed: the focus is on wrist movement and restraint rather than latitude. In watercolour instead of acrylic, there's a more nuanced flow as the medium seeps and bleeds quickly, forcing the artist to work at a pace, and not allowing for mistakes to be corrected like they can be with acrylics on canvas. These smaller works explore colour patterns and result in stunning pieces in their own right.


Cat Blues (2024). *40" x 30".*


An untitled work on paper from 2024. *12" x 9".*

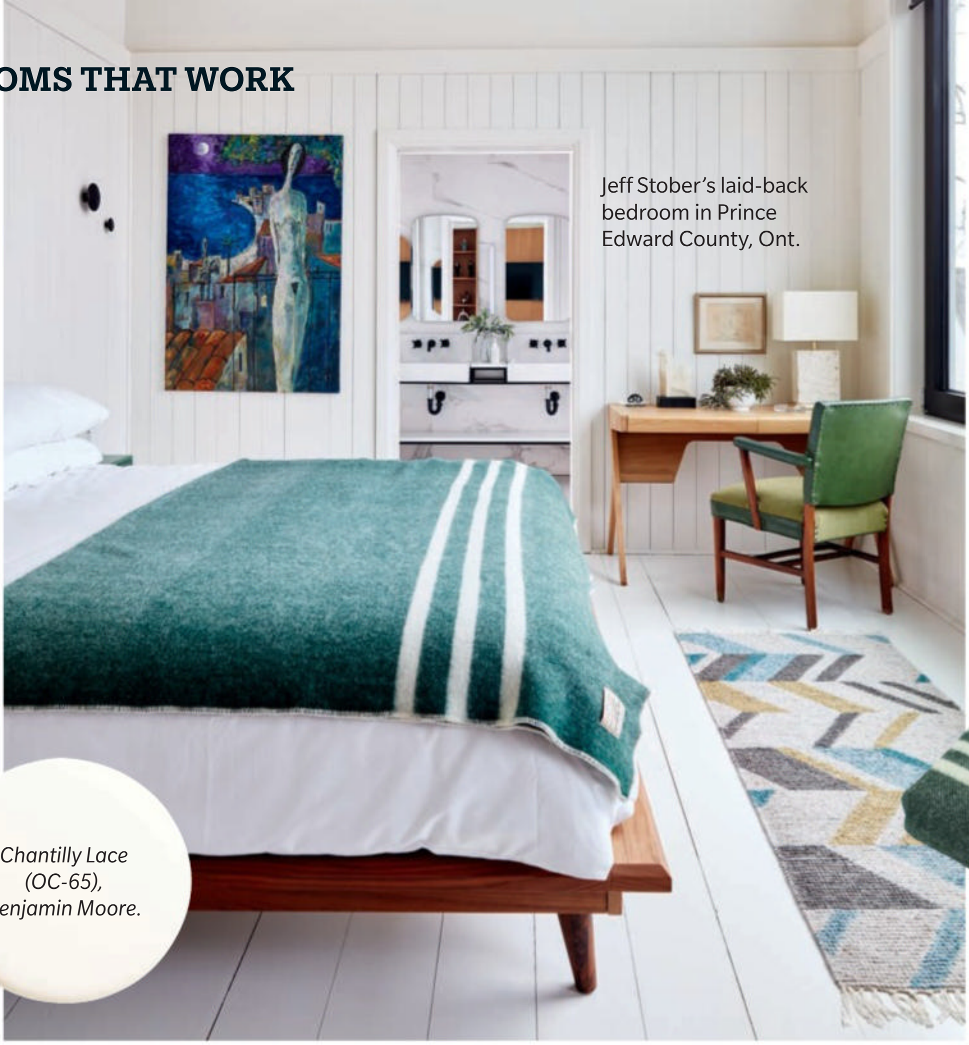
WHERE TO SEE IT

Shawn has done three solo exhibitions at Cooper Cole in Toronto and just had his first solo exhibition with JDJ, plus shows with Koki Arts in Tokyo. He has an exhibition coming up with David Petersen Gallery, and he's also part of a year-long outdoor group exhibition at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal called *Graphic Worlds*.


Dyan (2024). *24" x 20".*

Shawn's paintings have a lasting quality due to their balanced palettes and geometric forms. The push-pull between rhythmic energy and calm, raw canvas makes them easy to enjoy. Each time you interact with his work you see a different pattern emerge or a different flow of hand. It's like puzzle pieces constantly coming together and apart in a beautiful way.

COLLECTING: Shawn has been exhibiting internationally for more than 15 years. His work has been featured in *Artforum, The New York Times* and *Border Crossings,* amongst others. Shawn has received Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Assistance and Emerging Artist grants, and his work is in the permanent collection at the Portland Museum of Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Thomas J. Watson Library in NYC, the National Gallery of Canada Library and Archives, RBC Art Collection and Celine in Paris. His works start at $4,000.



Jeff Stober's laid-back bedroom in Prince Edward County, Ont.

Chantilly Lace (OC-65), Benjamin Moore.

QUIRKY COUNTRY BEDROOM

What makes this bedroom so successful? ***Lynda Reeves*** breaks it down. *Produced by* **AMANDA SMITH**

This sunny bedroom is proof that a great paint job can elevate and provide a clean backdrop for a rich, bold palette.

WHY IT WORKS:

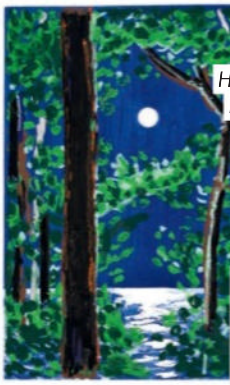
Jeff Stober is best known for The Drake Hotel. In his PEC bedroom, he's infused the combo of classic, mid-century modern shapes in the bed frame, vintage desk and chair with the quirky charm of art, fabrics and rugs in classic country colours of grass green and midnight blue. The green and white striped heritage wool blanket is a nod to Adirondack style, and the white linens and stone desk lamp are cool accents. The long view through to the renovated bathroom with its black fittings against white walls is a classic combo that never dates.

SPLURGE OR SAVE

*> **Desk** 120 with Panel and Drawer by Jasper Morrison for Maruni, $6,150. Mjölk.*

*^ Levinson **desk** in Natural, $999. Must.*

GET THE LOOK



*Moonrise 14 Hand-drawn Oil Pastel **etching print,** $1,400. Erik Olson.*

*> Seismic Stone **table lamp** by Troy Lighting for Hudson Valley Lighting, $688. Robinson Lighting & Bath.*

*Queen Wool Striped **blanket** in Forest Green with Natural White, $150. MacAusland's Woollen Mills.*

*Odeon **queen bed frame** in Classic Walnut, $2,995. Gus* Modern.*

*< Jh-515 **armchair** by Hans J. Wegner for Johannes Hansen, $6,054. 1stDibs.*

*Queen Essential 220 Thread ^ Count Percale **duvet cover** in White, $300. Au Lit Fine Linens.*

*6' x 9' Scandinavian Nordic Decor Bohemian-inspired **rug** by Himalayan Rugs Co, $728. Etsy.*

Photography by Stacey Brandford (bedroom)/Room design by Jeff Stober, Joyce Lo and Carlo Colacci (bedroom)

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Blue Botanical

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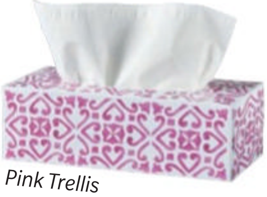
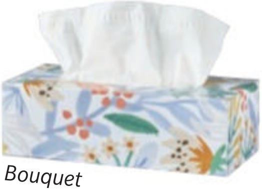
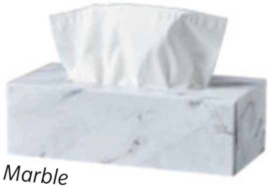
This screened porch by Lynda Reeves is the perfect spot for **Blue Botanical**. The porch, with its leafy green plants and soft teak seating, needed a bit of contrast amid all the green. Very dark blue was the perfect accent. Consider your rooms and go ahead and play! These luxe, three-ply tissues in six patterns will feel at home in any room of your house.



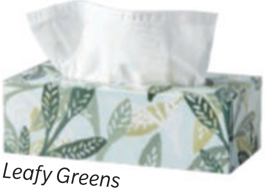
Pink Trellis



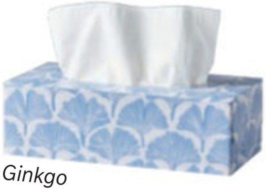
Bouquet



Marble



Leafy Greens



Ginkgo

Photography by Alex Lukey (porch)/Mark Burstyn (tissue boxes)/Room design by Lynda Reeves, LRDS

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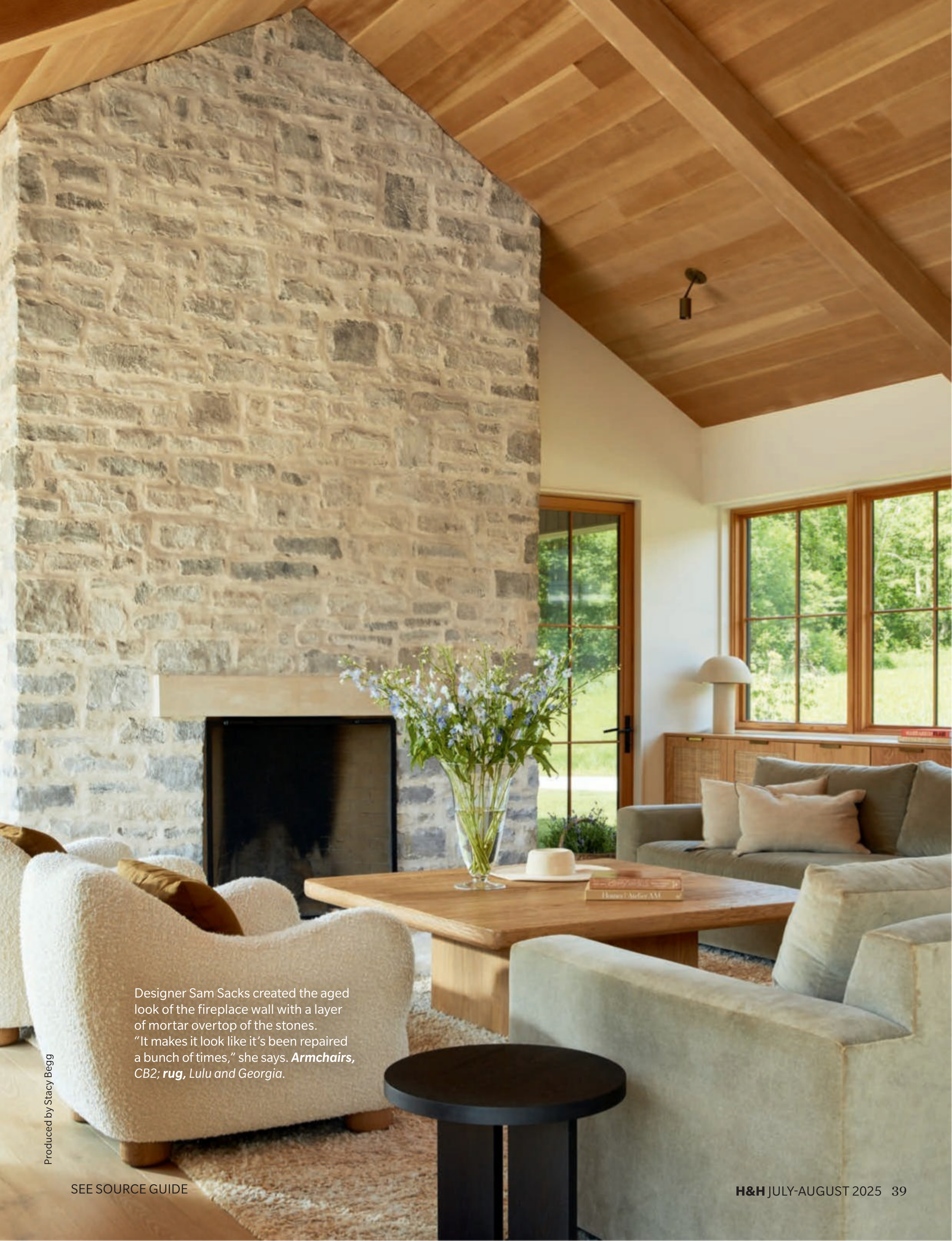
Photography by Maxime Desbiens

NEW HORIZONS

HOW ONE COUPLE TRADED THE CITY FOR THE COUNTRY — AND FOUND THEIR HAPPY PLACE.

Architecture **KYRA CLARKSON ARCHITECT** | *Design* **SAM SACKS DESIGN**
Photography **LAUREN MILLER** | *Text* **ALICE LAWLOR**



Designer Sam Sacks created the aged look of the fireplace wall with a layer of mortar overtop of the stones. “It makes it look like it’s been repaired a bunch of times,” she says. ***Armchairs,*** *CB2;* ***rug,*** *Lulu and Georgia.*

Produced by Stacy Begg

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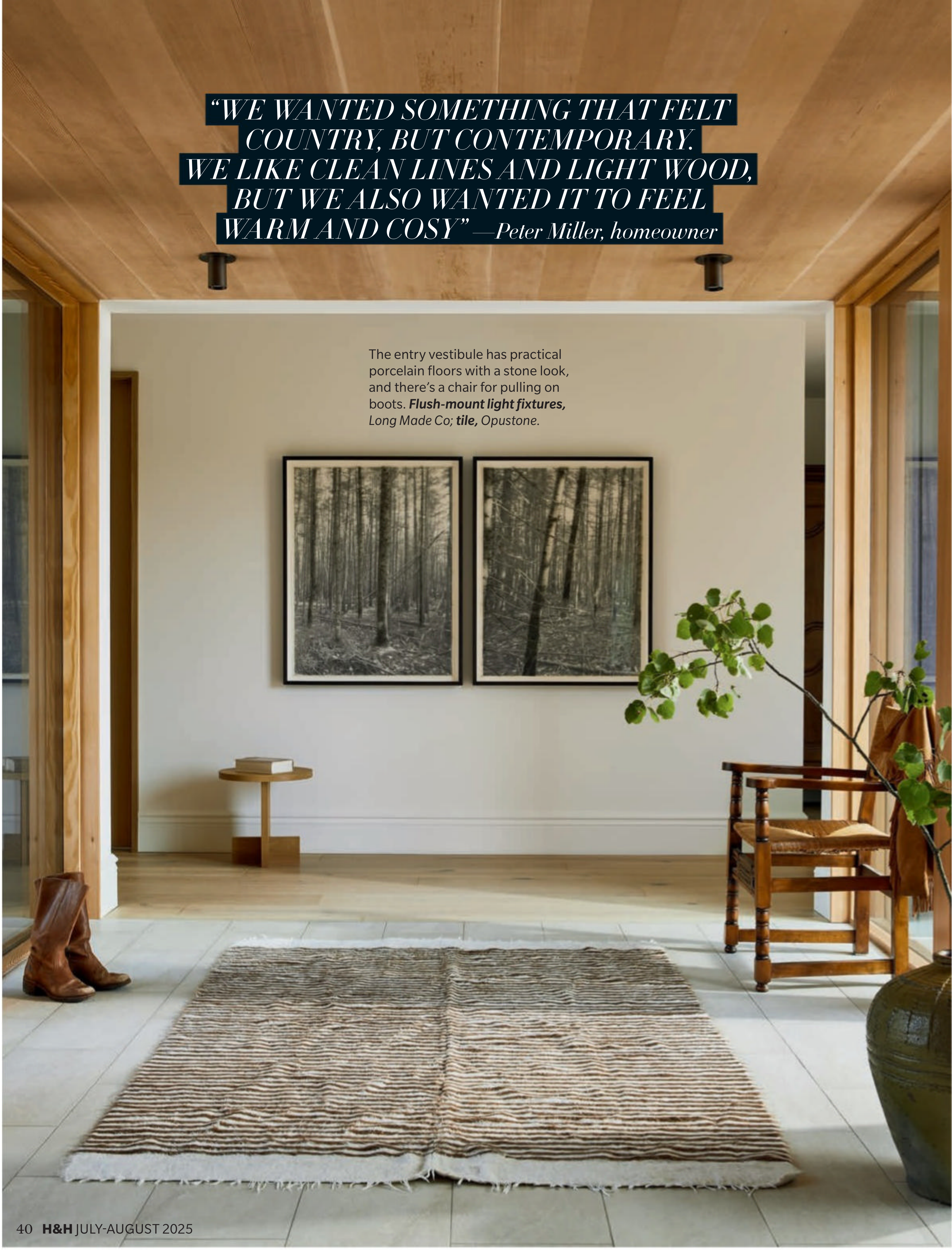
> *“WE WANTED SOMETHING THAT FELT COUNTRY, BUT CONTEMPORARY. WE LIKE CLEAN LINES AND LIGHT WOOD, BUT WE ALSO WANTED IT TO FEEL WARM AND COSY” —Peter Miller, homeowner*



The entry vestibule has practical porcelain floors with a stone look, and there’s a chair for pulling on boots. ***Flush-mount light fixtures,*** *Long Made Co;* ***tile,*** *Opustone.*

The serene pool reflects the surrounding hills and is bordered by thoughtful landscaping. ***Loungers,*** *Squire John's.*

HEATHER DRYDEN AND PETER MILLER have an affinity for country life. "We've been skiing at Devil's Glen for 22 years, renting each winter in Creemore," says Heather. "We've also become avid cyclists and appreciate that the area has some of the best cycling in Ontario." Once the kids were leaving for university, the couple started thinking about downsizing in Toronto and buying and building in Creemore, where they'd be in close proximity to summer and winter sports, and the many friends they'd made there over the years.

In 2019, Heather and Peter purchased 22 hectares of land just outside of Creemore. Peter works as an investment banker in Toronto, so they downsized in the city and started planning the new country house.

The property, which reminded Peter of "the rolling hills of England," came with a cute but run-down log home. Their longtime designer Sam Sacks quickly renovated, transforming it into a cosy modern retreat from which the couple could plan their dream house: a 4,380-square-foot, barn-style new-build in a contemporary country style.

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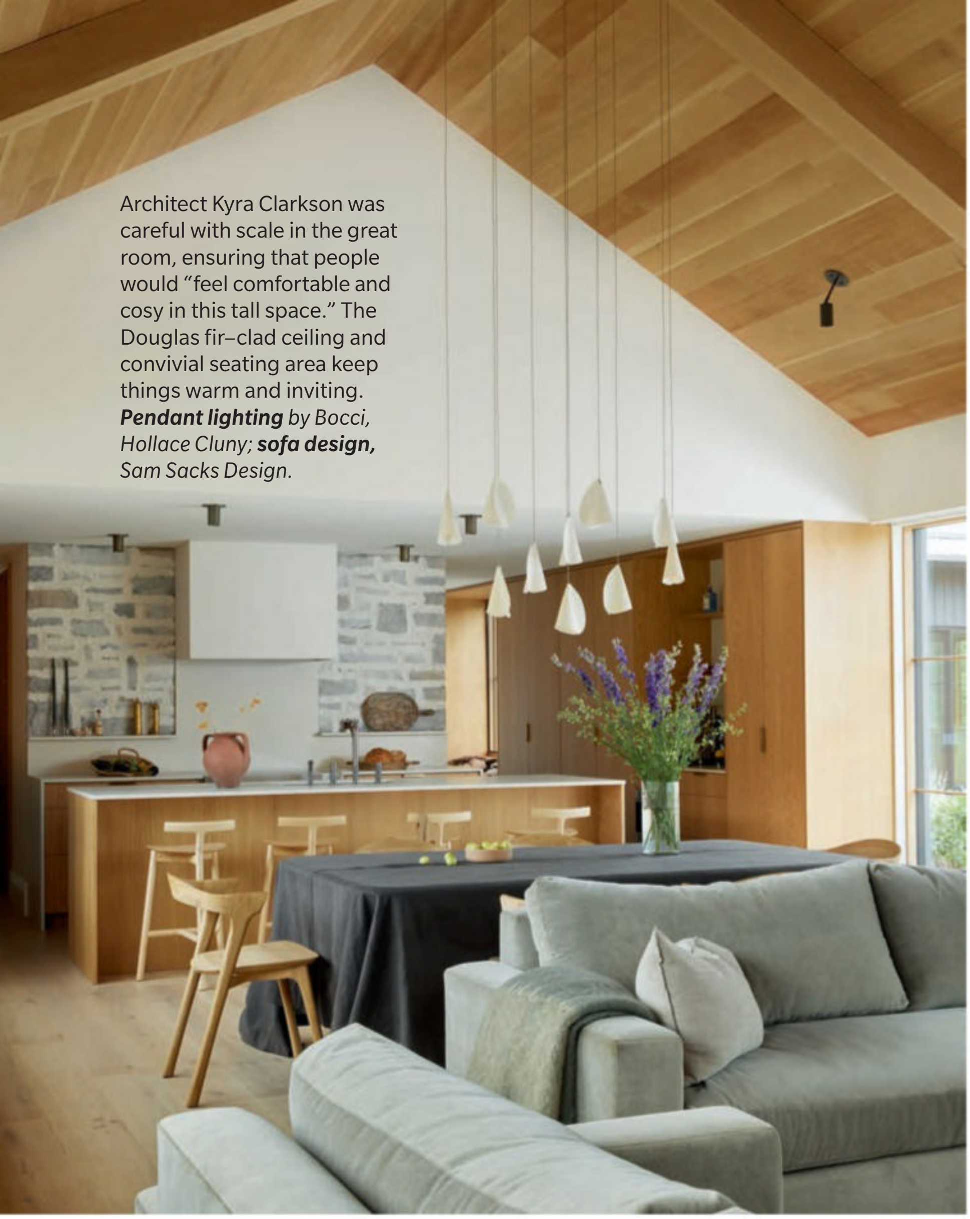
Peter and Heather with Sam (*seated*).



Architect Kyra Clarkson was careful with scale in the great room, ensuring that people would "feel comfortable and cosy in this tall space." The Douglas fir–clad ceiling and convivial seating area keep things warm and inviting. ***Pendant lighting*** *by Bocci, Hollace Cluny;* ***sofa design,*** *Sam Sacks Design.*

TOP RIGHT: Peter playing barista at the coffee station. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Natural ash stools bring a dash of Scandi style to the kitchen. ***Flush-mount light fixture,*** *Long Made Co;* ***stools,*** *AAVVGG.*

With architect Kyra Clarkson working closely with Heather, Peter and Sam, the project took shape where an asphalt tennis court once stood, and was complete by spring 2024. Designed as a T-shaped structure and clad in pine stained in a charcoal hue, the house wraps around a beautiful outdoor pool. "The goal was to create a clean and contemporary space that really engaged the landscape," says Kyra. "We wanted it to be open and light-filled, framing the views of the hills and woods."

When it came to the interiors, Sam struck the same balance between clean lines and natural warmth. "Heather and Peter wanted it to feel elevated but still casual enough to properly live in," she says. The great room is a perfect example of this mix: a grand stone fireplace soars above a comfy seating area, creating a look that's sophisticated and contemporary, yet warm and rustic. "I was pulling from a lot of different design languages," says Sam. "There's a bit of Scandi and a bit of 'high 1970s cabin'. It was important that it wasn't campy in any way; we didn't want to hit modern farmhouse right on the nose."

The double-sided fireplace is the focal point of the great room. The living area flows into the dining area and kitchen,

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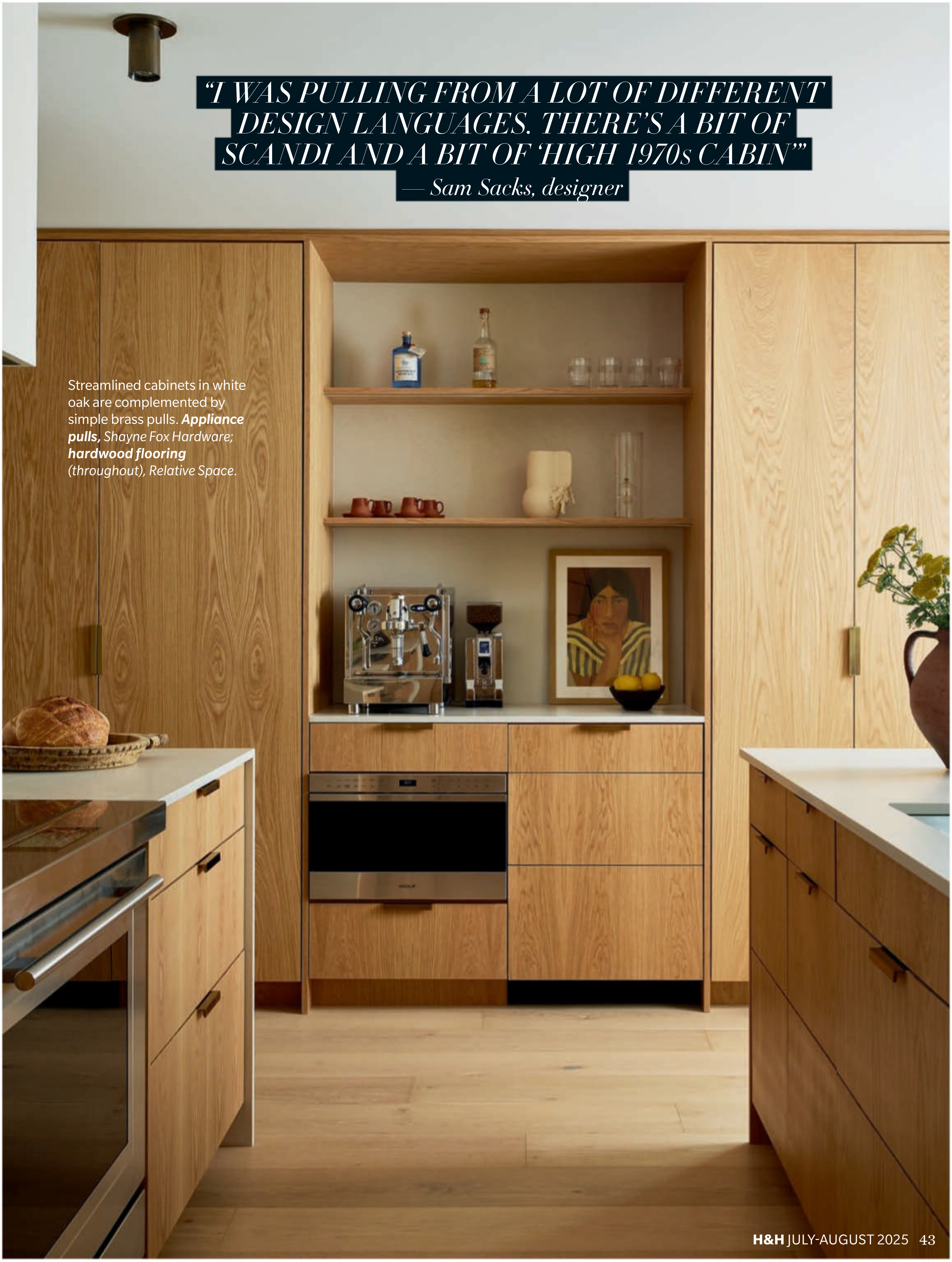
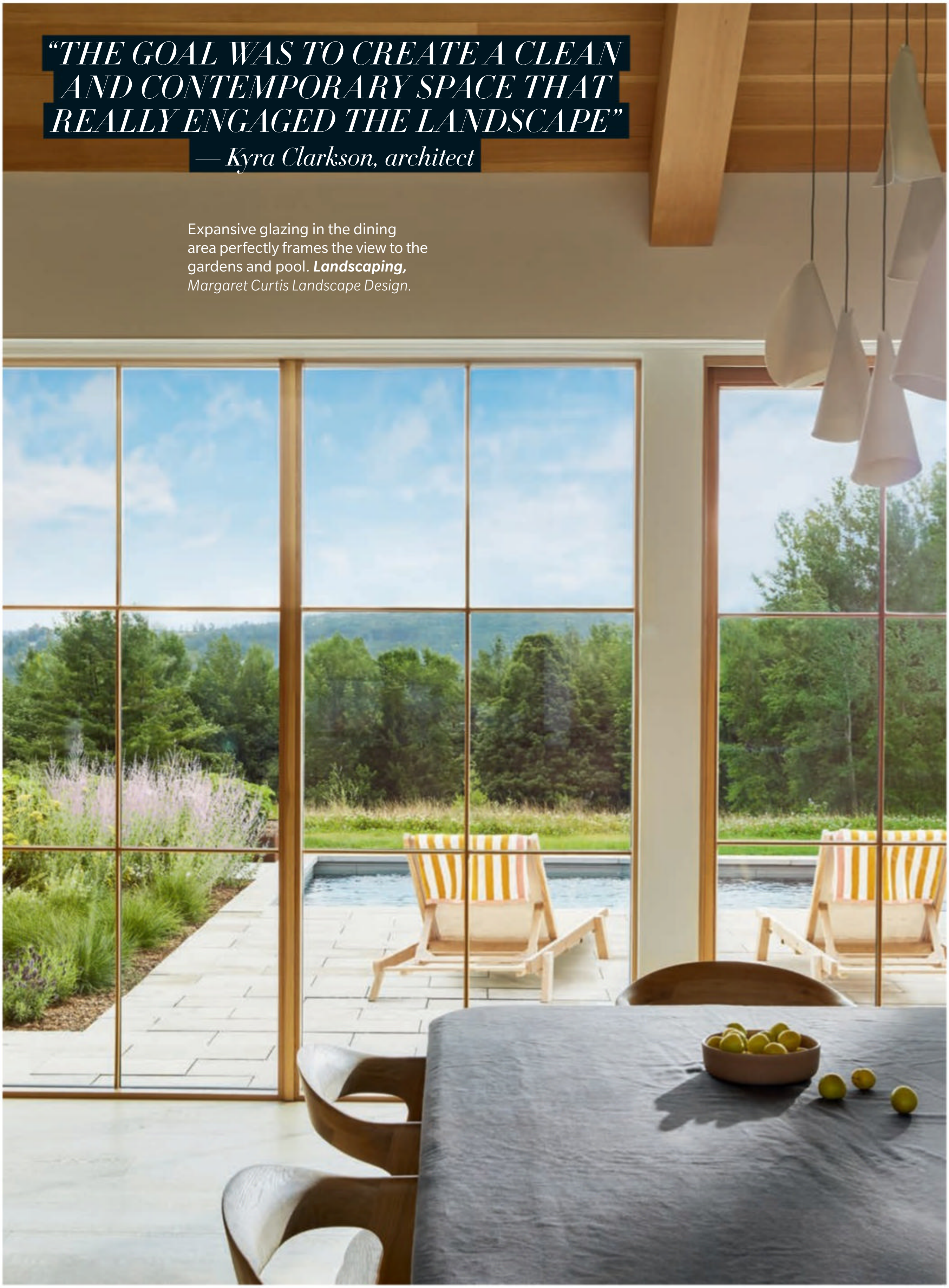


> *"I WAS PULLING FROM A LOT OF DIFFERENT DESIGN LANGUAGES. THERE'S A BIT OF SCANDI AND A BIT OF 'HIGH 1970s CABIN'"*
> *— Sam Sacks, designer*

Streamlined cabinets in white oak are complemented by simple brass pulls. ***Appliance pulls,*** *Shayne Fox Hardware;* ***hardwood flooring*** *(throughout), Relative Space.*



“THE GOAL WAS TO CREATE A CLEAN AND CONTEMPORARY SPACE THAT REALLY ENGAGED THE LANDSCAPE”
— *Kyra Clarkson, architect*

Expansive glazing in the dining area perfectly frames the view to the gardens and pool. ***Landscaping,*** *Margaret Curtis Landscape Design.*

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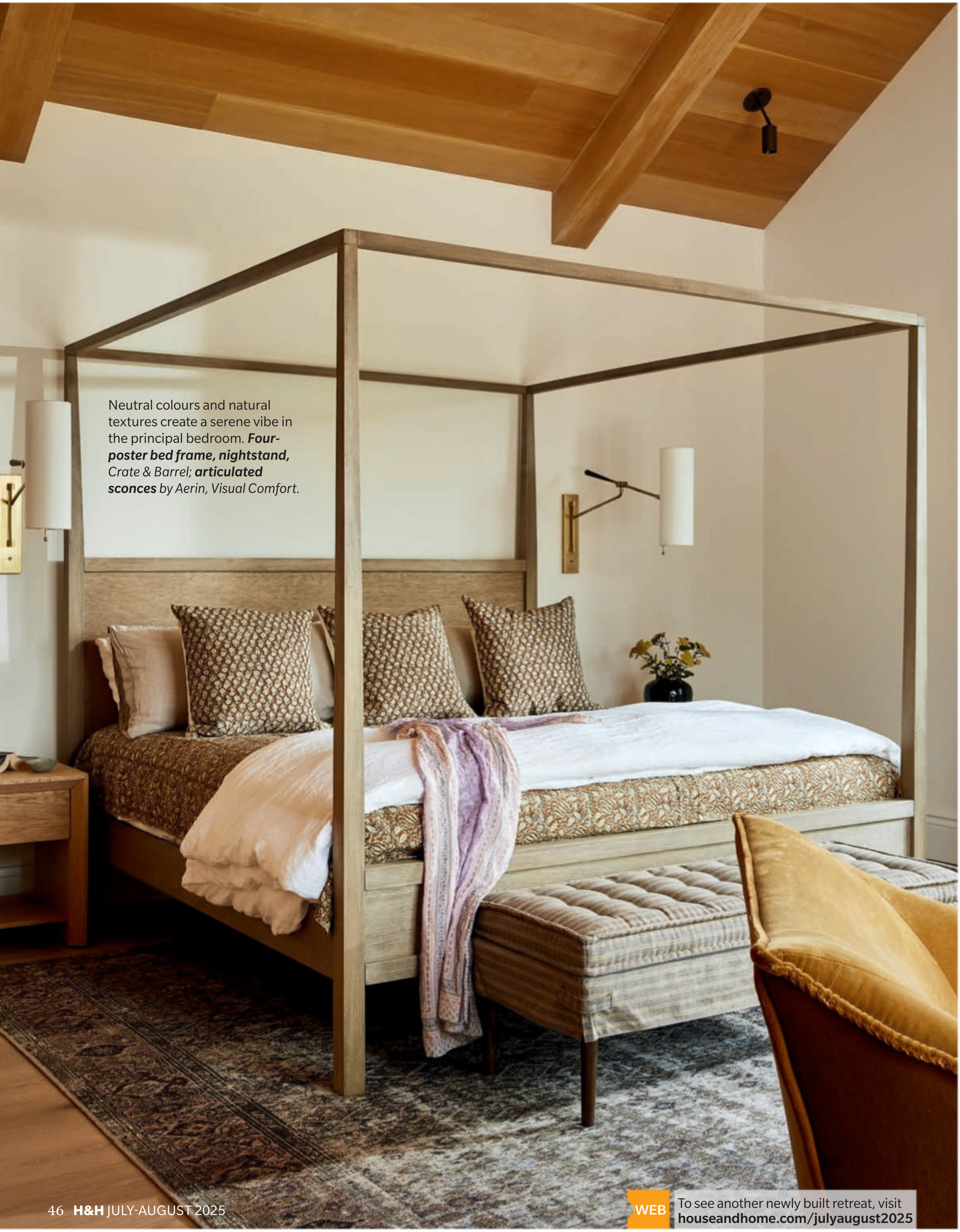
TOP: A screened-in porch has a fireplace that shares its chimney with the great room fireplace, inviting fireside lounging, indoors or out. **BOTTOM:** A modern articulated sconce and graphic bedspread — a Sam Sacks signature move — bring energy to the guest bedroom. ***Articulated sconce,*** *Doozie Light Studio;* ***upholstered bed frame,*** *Lulu and Georgia;* ***nightstand,*** *CB2.*

where stone-veneer walls echo the fireplace. Sam describes Heather and Peter as "highly social humans," who entertain a lot. For this reason, she avoided anything high-maintenance in the kitchen, choosing easy-to-clean quartz for the lower backsplash and behind the range. Heather consulted her sister, a chef, on the layout. "Her biggest complaint for a lot of kitchens she works in is that they're unnecessarily large," she says. "Sam did a great job of planning the space — it's really well laid out."

Throughout the house, bronze and brass finishes add a soft glow while a mix of rich woods and textured ceramics are quietly elegant. Despite its size, the home is designed to feel intimate and unpretentious. The three bedrooms are intentionally simple: two share a bathroom, and the third has its own spa-like ensuite.

Here, life moves at a different pace. Mornings start with coffee and a hike, afternoons are for long bike rides, and evenings are spent watching the sunset reflect off the pool, enjoying a fire — or entertaining a crowd. "We hosted a family wedding here in the summer, which was really fun," says Peter. "We put a tent in the driveway and had the fire on in the screened-in porch, so there were lots of unique areas with totally different feels. It's a good party palace."

This country retreat is more than just a home for the couple — it's a lifestyle, one defined by open space, fresh air and the simple pleasure of time spent with their favourite people. Once the project was complete, Sam was lucky enough to become one of these people. "They invited me and my husband up for the weekend and it was such a thrill to be a guest in one of my projects," she says. "To wake up in a house I designed, to see the way the light falls at every hour of the day, to swim in the pool, to have wine by the fire and to wake up in one of the bedrooms — it sounds simple, but it was a career high for me." H&H



Neutral colours and natural textures create a serene vibe in the principal bedroom. ***Four-poster bed frame, nightstand,*** *Crate & Barrel;* ***articulated sconces*** *by Aerin, Visual Comfort.*

WEB To see another newly built retreat, visit **houseandhome.com/julyaugust2025**

A pair of velvet chairs are perfectly placed to take in the vista from the principal bedroom. ***Swivel armchairs,*** *Crate & Barrel;* ***coffee table,*** *West Elm.*

TOP RIGHT: A collection of sculptural pendants defines the dining area, which flows right off the kitchen.
CENTRE RIGHT: Instead of black window frames, Sam opted for wooden frames and recessed blinds, keeping the attention firmly on the outdoors. "Everything else needed to be a complement to the gorgeous view." ***Table lamp,*** *CB2;* ***coffee table,*** *Hauer Market.*
BOTTOM CENTRE: The freestanding tub in white terrazzo stone is smooth and sculptural in the ensuite. ***Tub,*** *France and Son Canada.*
BOTTOM LEFT: An elegant shower enclosure and practical wood cabinets epitomize form meeting function.

SEE SOURCE GUIDE

Designer Angela Wheeler with husband Josh Malcolm.

TREASURED ISLAND

A FAMILY'S CAPTIVATING ISLAND COTTAGE IS A NOD TO TYROLEAN CHALETS, AND A MASTER CLASS IN USING ONE MATERIAL WELL.

Design **ANGELA WHEELER DESIGN**
Photography **STACEY BRANDFORD**
Text **IRIS BENAROIA**

Produced by Stacy Begg/Styling by Kat Vandermey

Pine envelops the cottage interior, showcasing its pared-back beauty. In the kitchen, colour comes from the leafy views and a painting by Joanna Malcolm, Angela's mother-in-law. ***Pine for walls and floors,*** *Carson Lake Lumber.*

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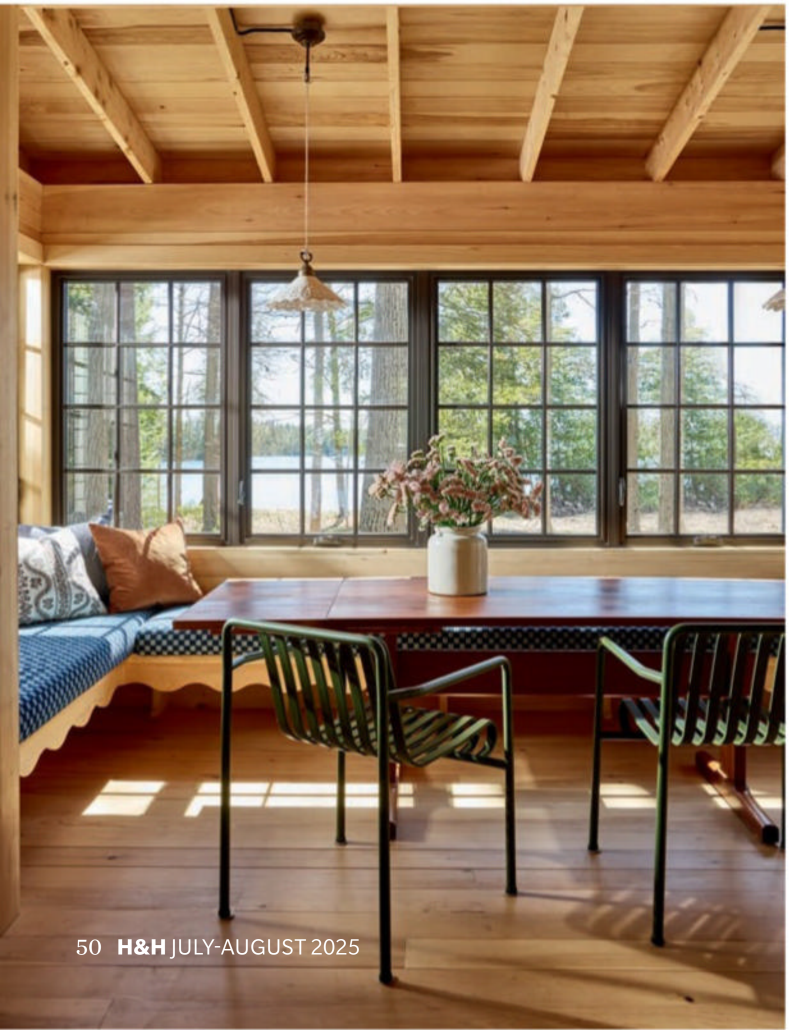
A sight line from the kitchen into the living room.



Are we there yet?

Every parent knows *that* refrain, especially when you also throw in a boat ride before reaching the actual cottage. But Angela Wheeler and Josh Malcolm — and their four kids, Aiden, Jessie, Stella Jane and Will — adore adventurous passages like this. (Stopping at a chip truck on the hour-long drive helps enormously.) The family had already spent 15 lazy summers at an island cottage without hydro owned by Angela's in-laws located in the Kawarthas, in south central Ontario.

Angela, a designer, runs her firm from Port Perry, Ont., where they live Josh is the co-founder of Woodland Mills and co-owner of Classic Fireplace and BBQ Store. When the couple chanced upon an island cottage for sale *with* hydro, they pounced on it: "That's half the battle right there," says Angela. "And we were already familiar with the rigmarole of driving, loading the boat, getting your kids across, and then unloading everything."

LEFT: Mullion windows in the dining area overlook Balsam Lake. "You open those windows and it feels amazing," says Angela. "The room is cocooning like a camper, and kids love it." Though you could jam 15 people in here for meals, the kids usually laze around reading or doing crafts on the table. ***Pendant*** *by Il Fanale, TouchGoods;* ***dining chairs*** *by Hay, Design Within Reach;* ***dining table,*** *Nummii Vintage + Furniture;* ***banquette cushion fabrication,*** *Alo Upholstery & Interiors;* ***patterned throw pillow,*** *Etsy.*

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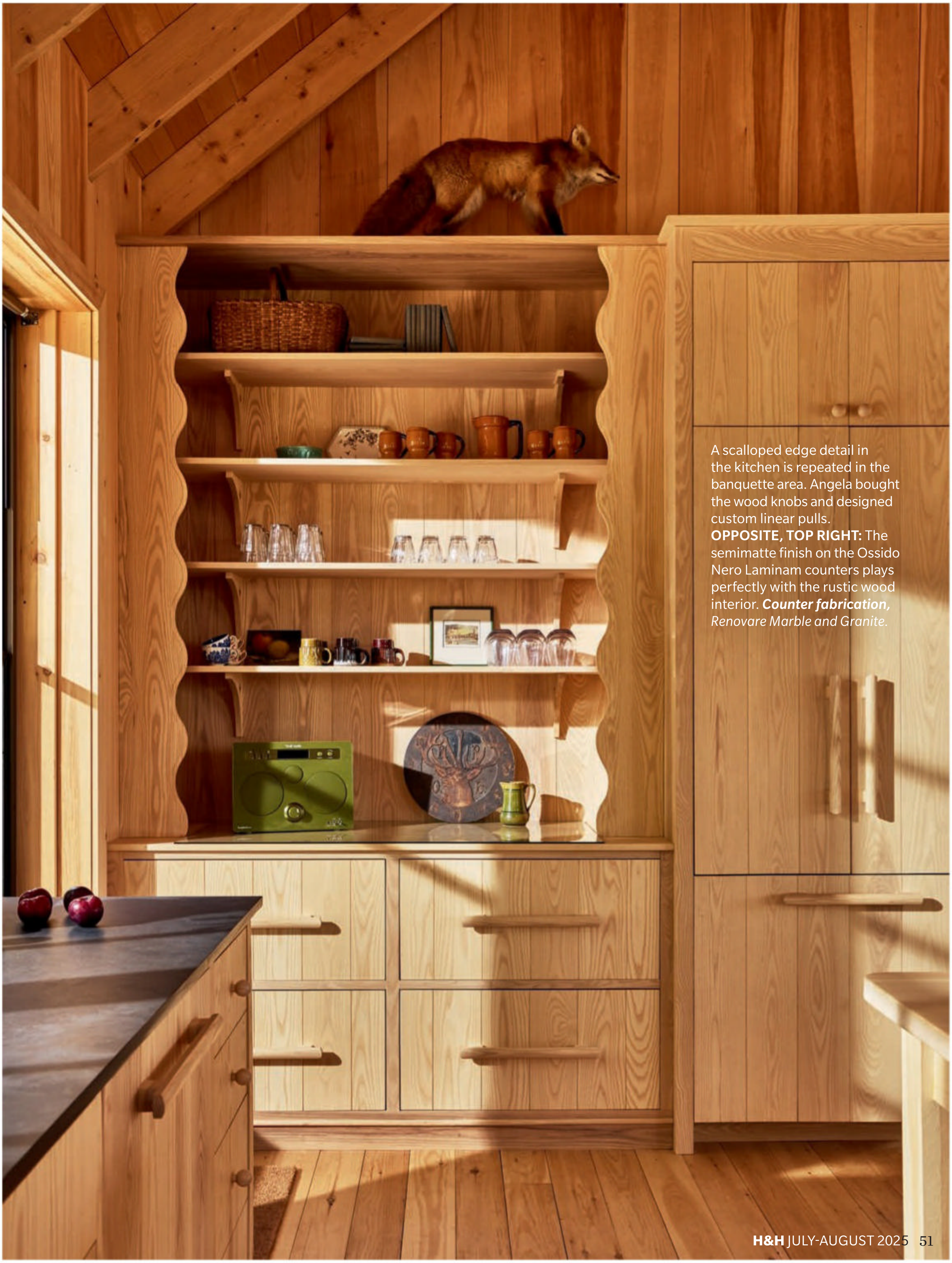
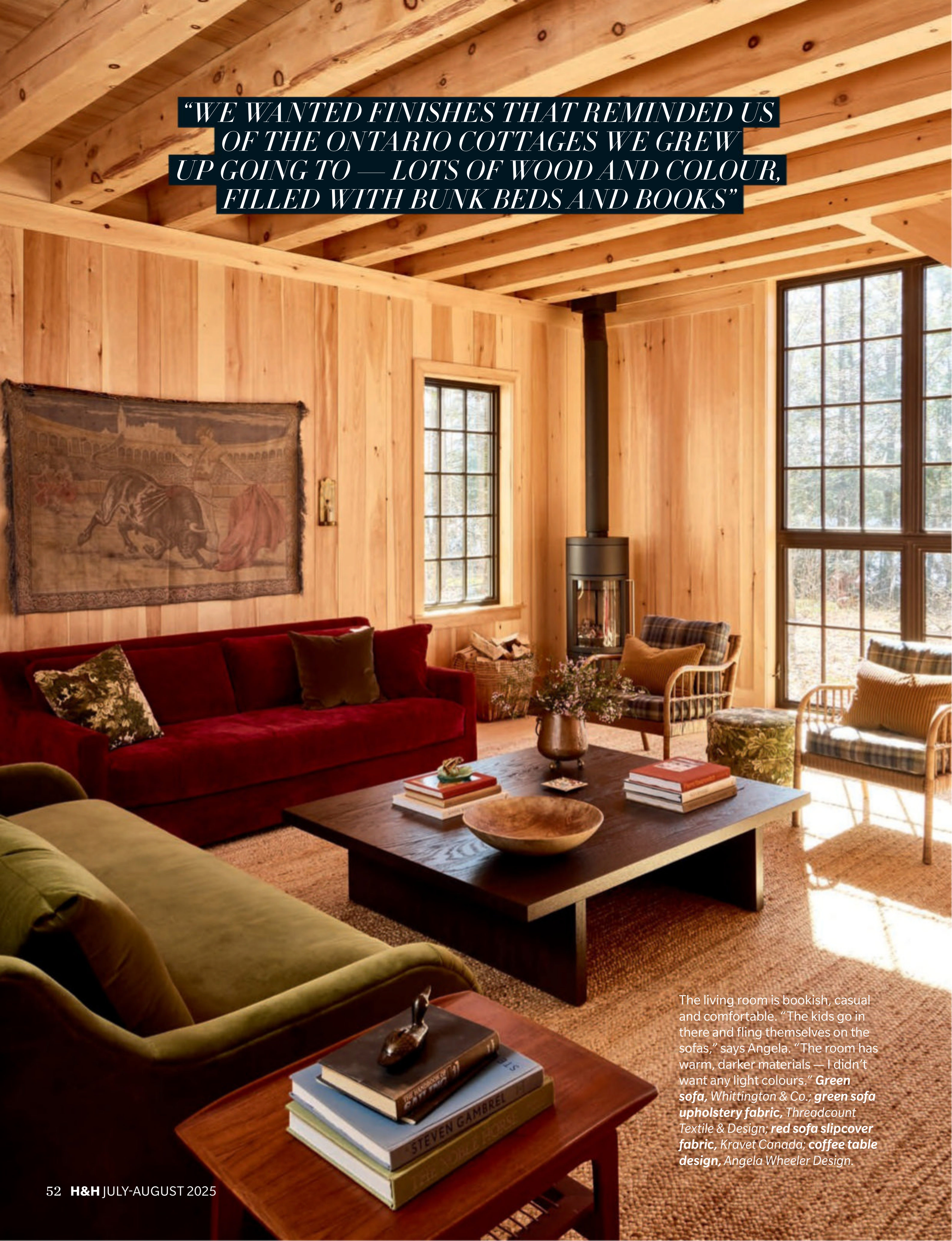


A scalloped edge detail in the kitchen is repeated in the banquette area. Angela bought the wood knobs and designed custom linear pulls. **OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT:** The semimatte finish on the Ossido Nero Laminam counters plays perfectly with the rustic wood interior. ***Counter fabrication,*** *Renovare Marble and Granite.*

> *“WE WANTED FINISHES THAT REMINDED US OF THE ONTARIO COTTAGES WE GREW UP GOING TO — LOTS OF WOOD AND COLOUR, FILLED WITH BUNK BEDS AND BOOKS”*



The living room is bookish, casual and comfortable. “The kids go in there and fling themselves on the sofas,” says Angela. “The room has warm, darker materials — I didn’t want any light colours.” ***Green sofa,*** *Whittington & Co.;* ***green sofa upholstery fabric,*** *Threadcount Textile & Design;* ***red sofa slipcover fabric,*** *Kravet Canada;* ***coffee table design,*** *Angela Wheeler Design.*

“A former visitor who’d been going to the original cottage for many years left behind treasures that we kept,” says Angela. “They’re mainly old copies of *Reader’s Digest, The New Yorker* and *National Geographic,* and old Agatha Christie novels.”

The tiny dwelling was on a small island on Balsam Lake, near Fenelon Falls, Ont. It was one of five cottages owned for many years by the same family, whose descendants still own the remaining properties. “This is a special island, and I really fell for the idea of having our own place to go to,” says Angela. “We have a deep lot with frontages on both sides — it’s sandy with calm water on one side, and rocky with rougher water on the other.”

The original cottage was too run-down to repair and too complicated for an addition, so they razed it. Besides, as a family of six with an extended family that balloons to more than 30 people, it just wouldn’t do.

Angela and Josh situated the new 2,500-square-foot cottage amongst mature hardwoods and evergreens. Designed by Angela, it was constructed by Fenelon Falls firm Jones Carpentry.

The look for the cottage was inspired by a past family trip to the Alps in Austria and Switzerland. “I was completely taken by the chalets in Tyrolean style,” says Angela. “I feel like this place represents my aesthetic and taste — it’s more who I am — and we wanted to have a true cottage, not another house.” For instance, with an emphasis on keeping things simple, there’s no heating or cooling here.

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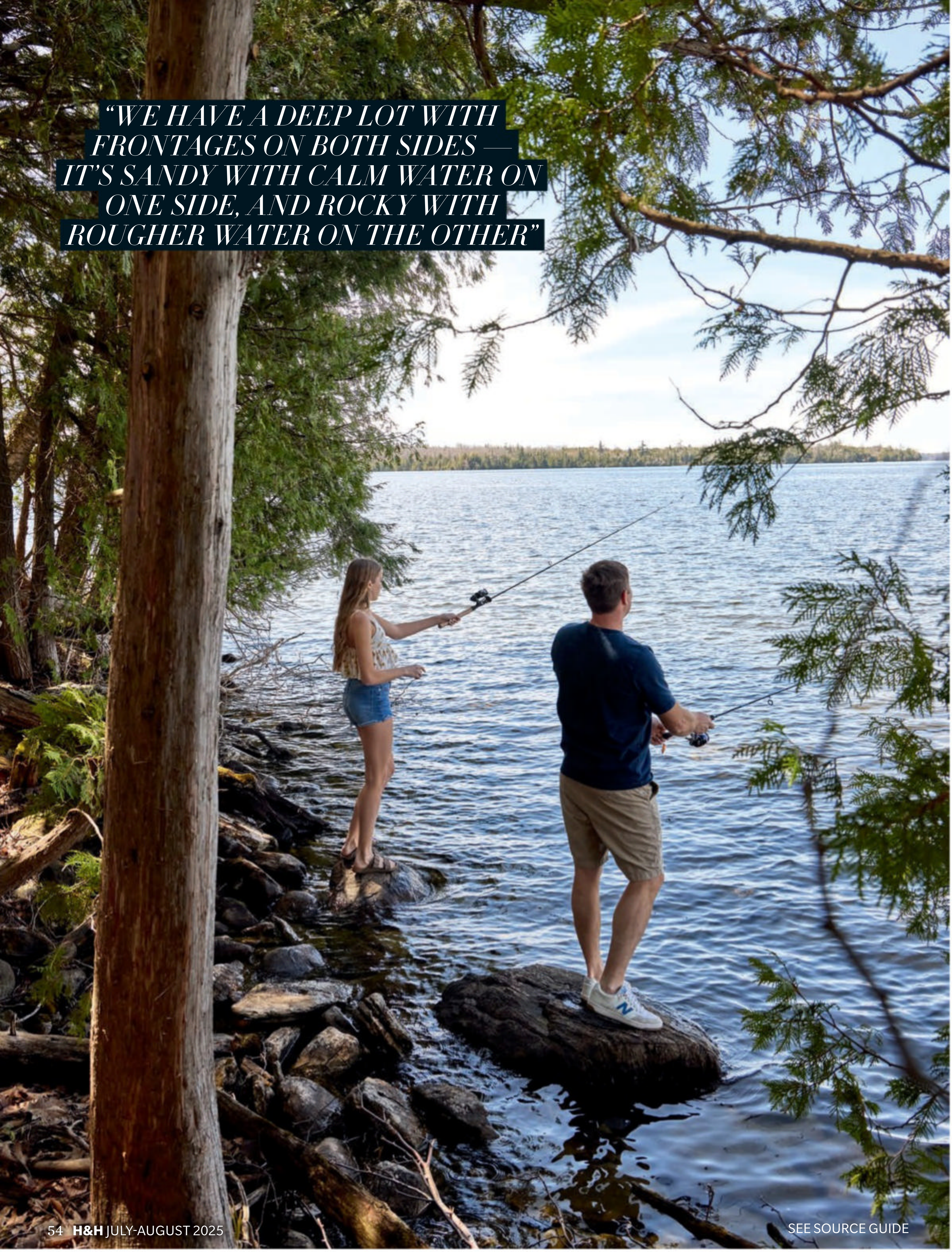

“WE HAVE A DEEP LOT WITH FRONTAGES ON BOTH SIDES — IT’S SANDY WITH CALM WATER ON ONE SIDE, AND ROCKY WITH ROUGHER WATER ON THE OTHER”

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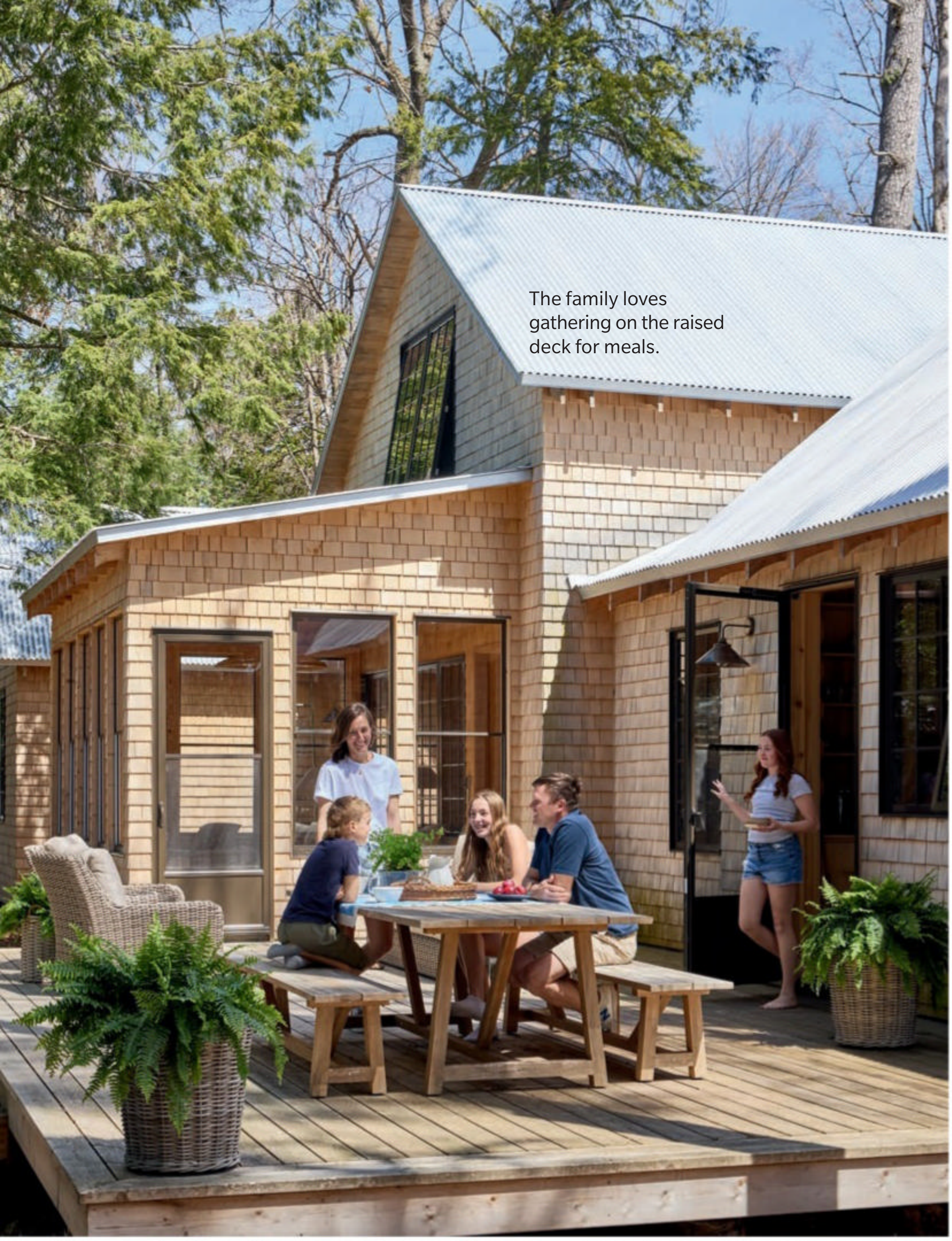
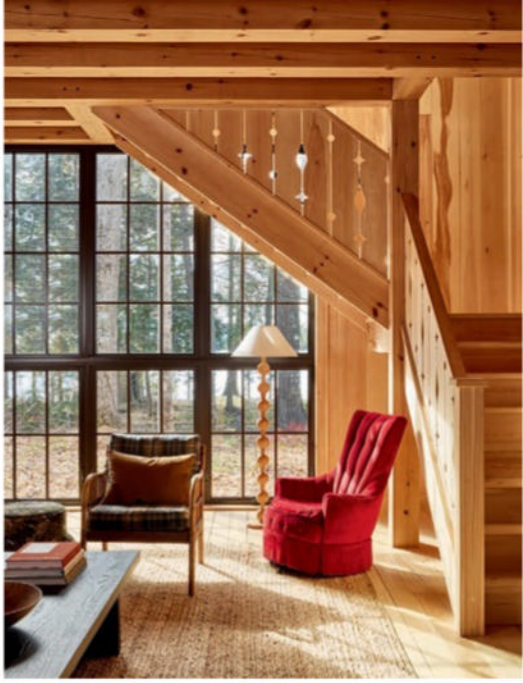
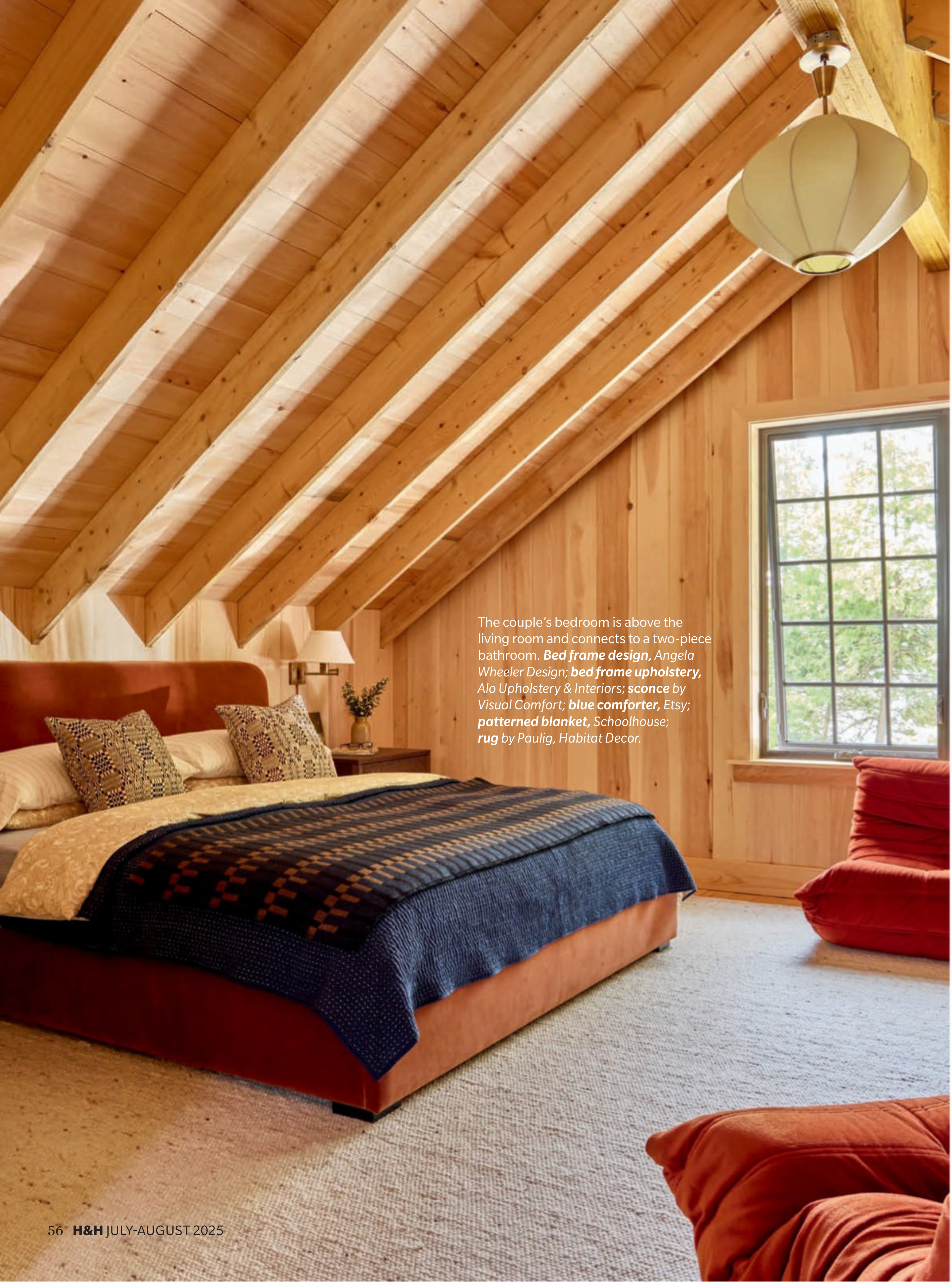


The family loves gathering on the raised deck for meals.



TOP RIGHT: The cutout detail on the stair railing was inspired by a family trip to Austria and Switzerland. Angela drew it out and a fine carpenter made it a reality. ***Plaid armchair,*** *Ikea.*
CENTRE RIGHT: Josh enjoys a coffee while taking in the panoramic view.
BOTTOM CENTRE: "The porch has huge windows that are mostly left open, making it very breezy," says Angela. "It's a space for reading, playing games and even sleeping on a nice night." ***Rug,*** *Dash & Albert.*
BOTTOM LEFT: The entry has two large closets and hooks for hanging wet towels. ***Lampshade*** *by Cressida Bell;* ***side table,*** *Country Sampler Antiques;* ***rug,*** *eCarpetGallery.*



The couple's bedroom is above the living room and connects to a two-piece bathroom. ***Bed frame design,*** *Angela Wheeler Design;* ***bed frame upholstery,*** *Alo Upholstery & Interiors;* ***sconce*** *by Visual Comfort;* ***blue comforter,*** *Etsy;* ***patterned blanket,*** *Schoolhouse;* ***rug*** *by Paulig, Habitat Decor.*

A cool bunk room is an ideal sleep space for the younger set.

TOP RIGHT: White counters with shades of gold and grey are a bright counterpoint to the main bathroom's dark vanity. ***Sconces*** *by Hudson Valley Lighting;* ***counter,*** *Neolith;* ***vanity design,*** *Angela Wheeler Design.*
BOTTOM RIGHT: The understated space is clad in wood and tile. ***Tile,*** *Saltillo Imports;* ***bath mat,*** *Dash & Albert.*

Clad in cedar shingles and topped with a metal roof, the three-bedroom cottage unfurls across the craggy terrain. A giant picture window punctuates the centre peaked portion, where you'll find the airy living room. The kids and guest quarters are off to one side of the living room, with the kitchen and dining area on the opposite end. Two old bunkies that were already on the property accommodate overflow guests.

"The building process was prolonged — two years in total," says Angela. "Being on an island, you have to stop in the winter, though we did take some materials across the ice, like all the pine for the walls, floors and ceilings." That delivery was crucial, considering the cottage is a love letter to wood, from the custom-made kitchen pulls to the stair rail that sports a charming Tyrolean design.

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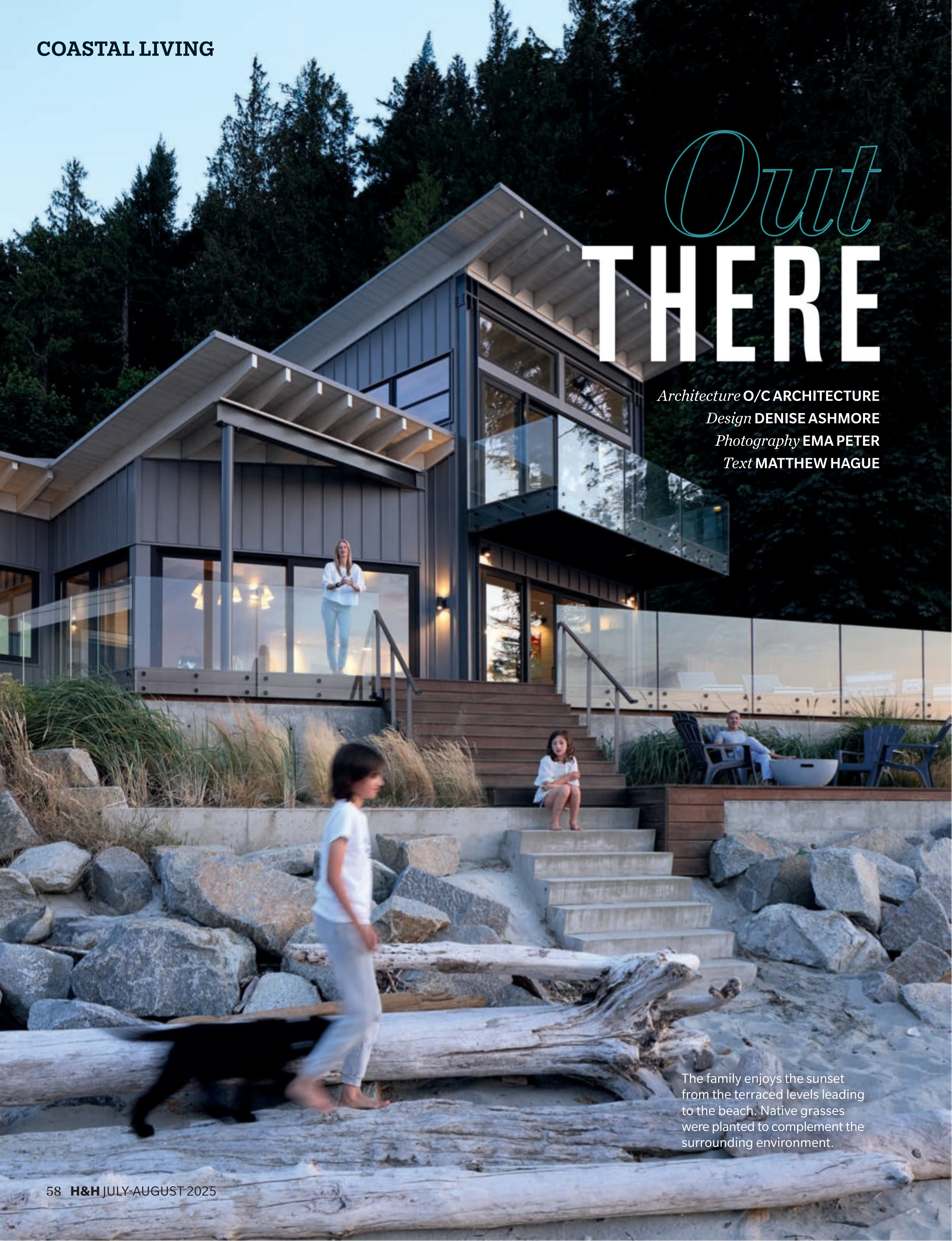
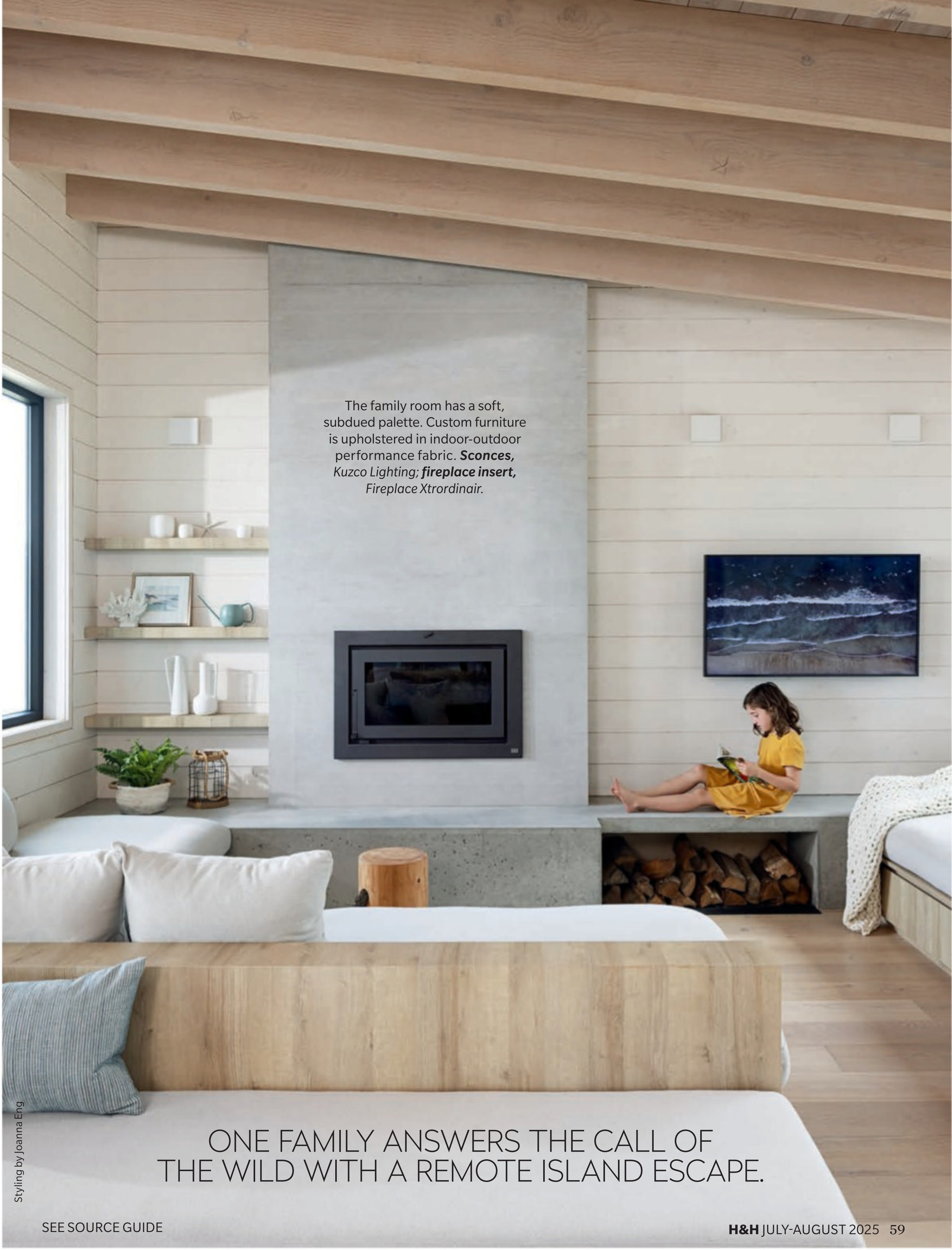


Out THERE

Architecture **O/C ARCHITECTURE**
Design **DENISE ASHMORE**
Photography **EMA PETER**
Text **MATTHEW HAGUE**

The family enjoys the sunset from the terraced levels leading to the beach. Native grasses were planted to complement the surrounding environment.



The family room has a soft, subdued palette. Custom furniture is upholstered in indoor-outdoor performance fabric. ***Sconces,*** *Kuzco Lighting;* ***fireplace insert,*** *Fireplace Xtrordinair.*

ONE FAMILY ANSWERS THE CALL OF THE WILD WITH A REMOTE ISLAND ESCAPE.

Styling by Joanna Eng

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ABOVE LEFT: Engineered white oak was used for the floors and stairs. "White oak is extremely durable," says designer Denise Ashmore. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Sticking to the palette of woods, a simple console is placed in the entry. ***Rug,*** *Salari Fine Carpets.*

NORTH THORMANBY ISLAND, a tiny island just off B.C.'s Sunshine Coast, is a place apart. Whisper-quiet and free of shops, hotels and restaurants, there's a small community of summer cottagers who get around on foot or by golf cart. Sarah and Mike Chiu, along with their two tween-aged children, long admired the island from across the water when they owned a cottage on the mainland. "We love to boat," says Mike. "We visited Thormanby often and fell in love with it." In 2017, they bought a little A-frame cottage on the island, but when a piece of beachfront came up for sale, they jumped at the opportunity. "We decided to build our forever place," says Mike.

The couple partnered with Mark Osburn of O/C Architecture, a firm known for its waterfront projects. "Mark designed an amazing open-plan cottage with sweeping views of the water," says Sarah. "During the summer, we often see both the sunrise and sunset over the ocean." For the interiors, they tapped Denise Ashmore of Project22design. "Mike and Sarah wanted the palette to reflect the surrounding nature," says Denise. When she was unable to visit the property in person due to the pandemic, they brought her a bottle of sand and some rocks from the island. "I still have the bottle on my desk," says the designer.

The 2,400-square-foot, four-bedroom main cottage picks up on Thormanby's faded beach vibes. The palette is soothing: whites, greys and warm wood tones. But beneath the serene surfaces lies careful planning. "The salt air and blowing beach sand can be quite harsh," says Denise. "We had to think through the materials very carefully to ensure that everything was durable."

The exterior walls and roof are clad in standing-seam metal to withstand both windblown sand and winter storms. (The off-grid home is also equipped with solar panels and a backup diesel generator.) Inside, installing

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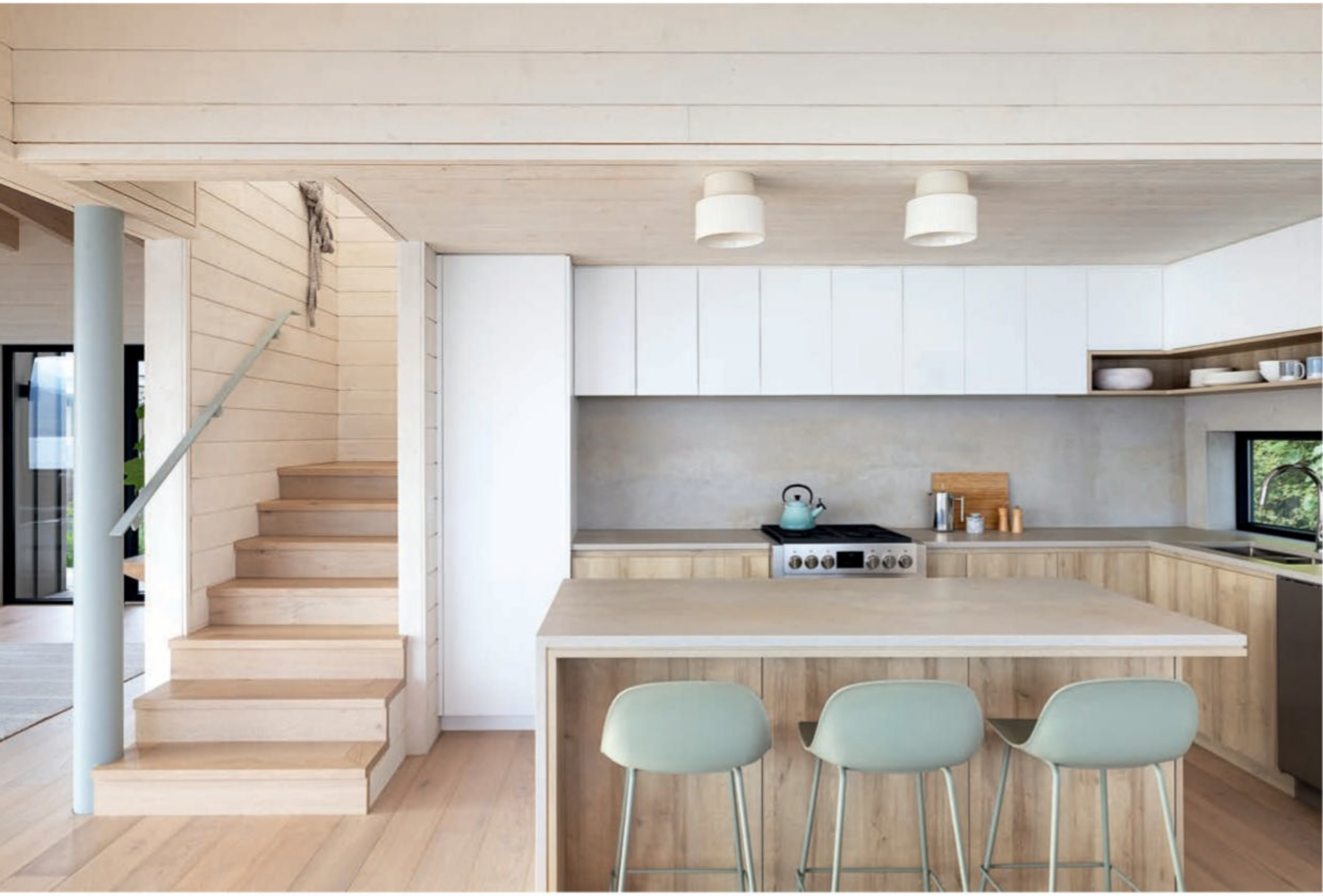
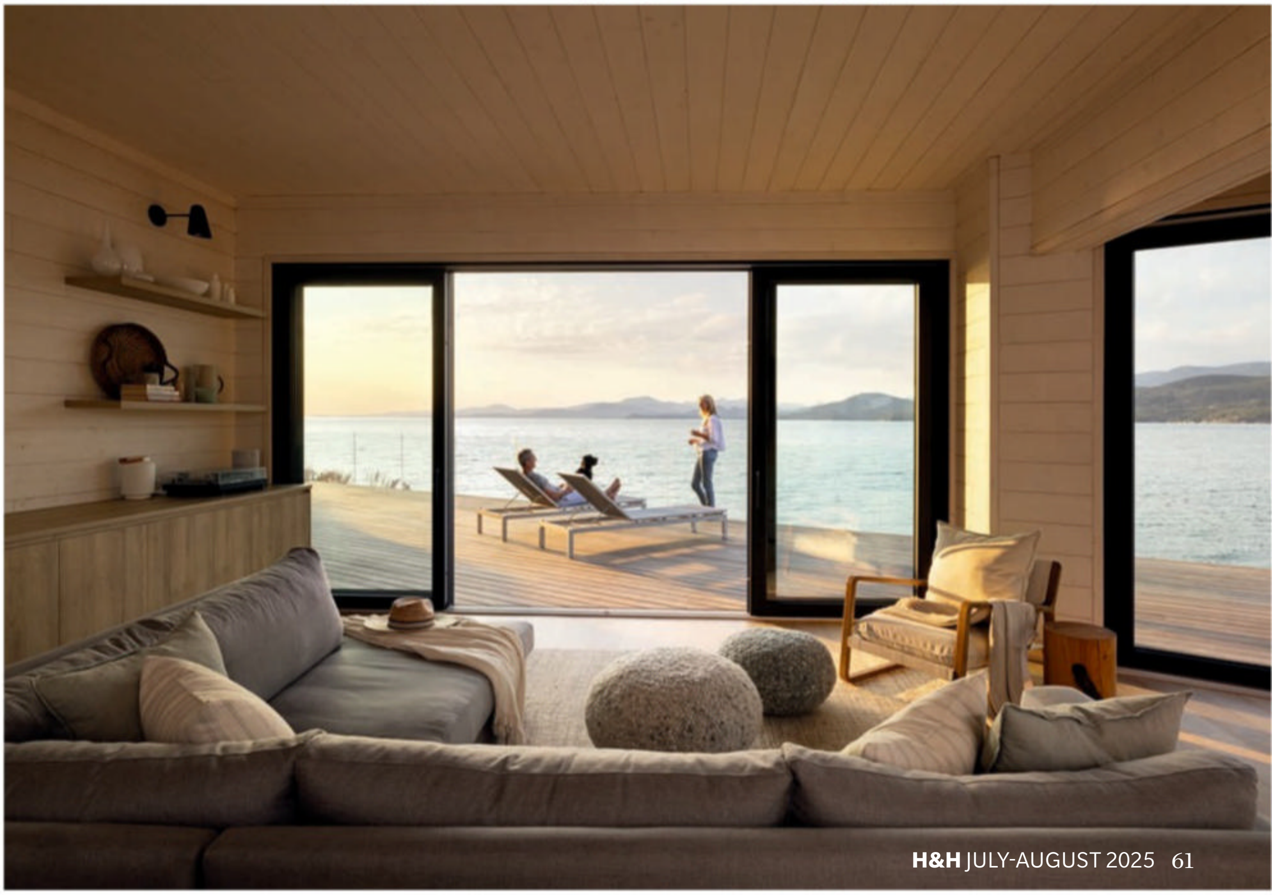
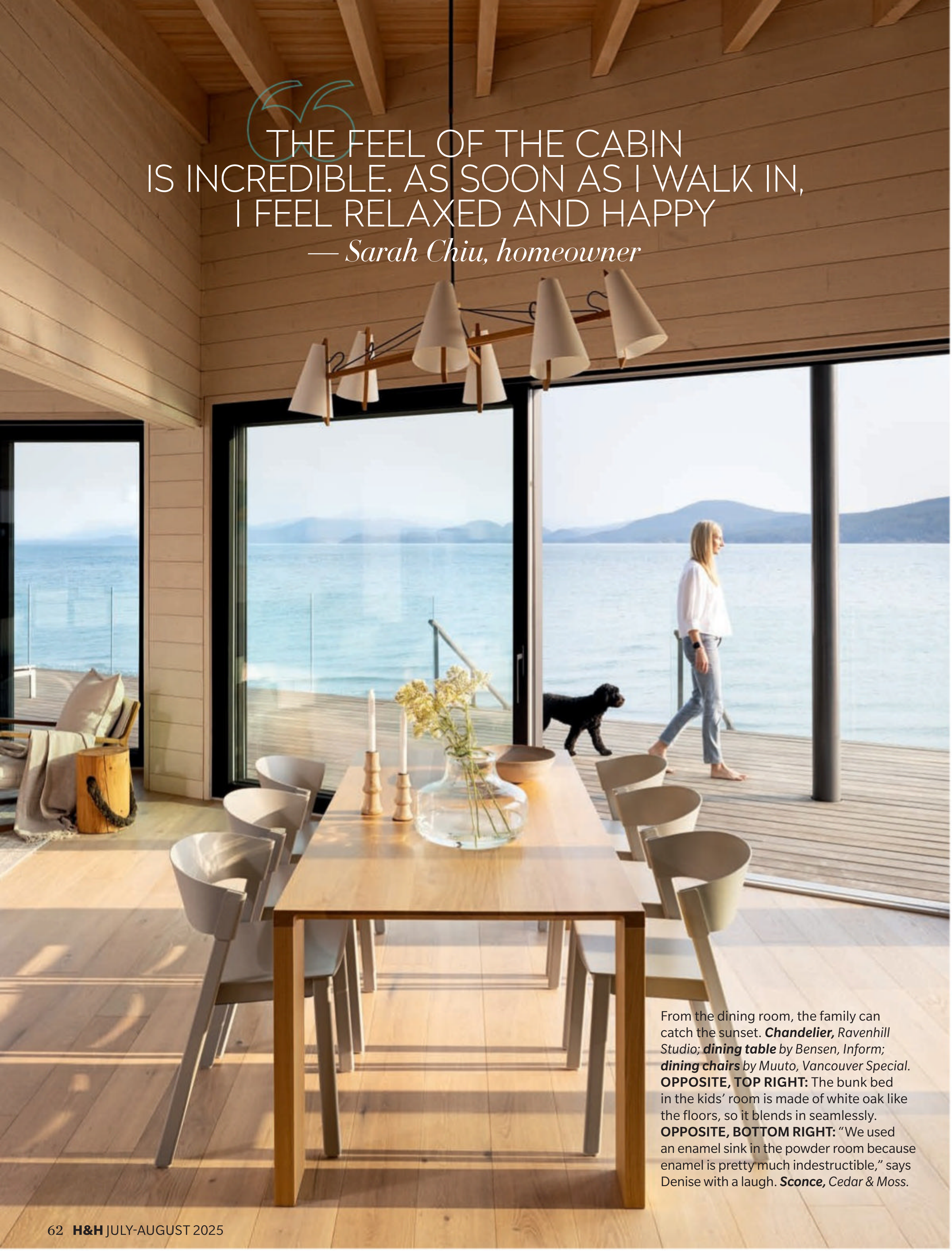




TOP: Denise chose laminate cabinets and Caesarstone for the counters and backsplash to stand up to the elements. ***Range*** *by Fulgor Milano, Midland Appliance;* ***stools*** *by Muuto, Vancouver Special.* **RIGHT:** Walls of windows in the living room offer spectacular ocean views. "We love looking out across the water and seeing the shadows of the clouds moving over the hills on the mainland," says homeowner Sarah Chiu. ***Sectional,*** *EQ3;* ***armchair,*** *West Elm;* ***side table,*** *Barter.*



“THE FEEL OF THE CABIN IS INCREDIBLE. AS SOON AS I WALK IN, I FEEL RELAXED AND HAPPY

— *Sarah Chiu, homeowner*

From the dining room, the family can catch the sunset. ***Chandelier,*** *Ravenhill Studio;* ***dining table*** *by Bensen, Inform;* ***dining chairs*** *by Muuto, Vancouver Special.* **OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT:** The bunk bed in the kids’ room is made of white oak like the floors, so it blends in seamlessly. **OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT:** “We used an enamel sink in the powder room because enamel is pretty much indestructible,” says Denise with a laugh. ***Sconce,*** *Cedar & Moss.*

Natural light pours through the windows in the upper-floor hallway, which faces a verdant sand bluff. Walls are lined in rough-hewn whitewashed cedar.

drywall was a nonstarter. "It didn't feel cottagey and we needed it to withstand the elements," says Denise. Instead, they opted for whitewashed, nickel-gap cedar on both the walls and ceilings. "The feel of the cabin is incredible," says Sarah. "As soon as I walk in, I feel relaxed and happy." Durability guided other choices, too, such as the engineered white oak floors and mostly laminate cabinets. "These materials are more long-lasting and don't require any maintenance," says Denise.

Building on a remote island brought additional challenges. Over the two-and-a-half-year construction period, all materials had to be delivered by barge during high tide. "We worked with CX Contracting who has done other builds on Thormanby and the team was incredibly organized with logistics and planning," says Sarah.

The Chius now spend long stretches on the island during the summer, which requires planning as well. Mike fishes and the family grows produce including kale and raspberries in the garden. With no grocery store, they stock up in advance and rely on a deep freezer. "When we're here, we try not to make trips to the mainland," says Sarah. "We like our days to just be. It's such a special place."

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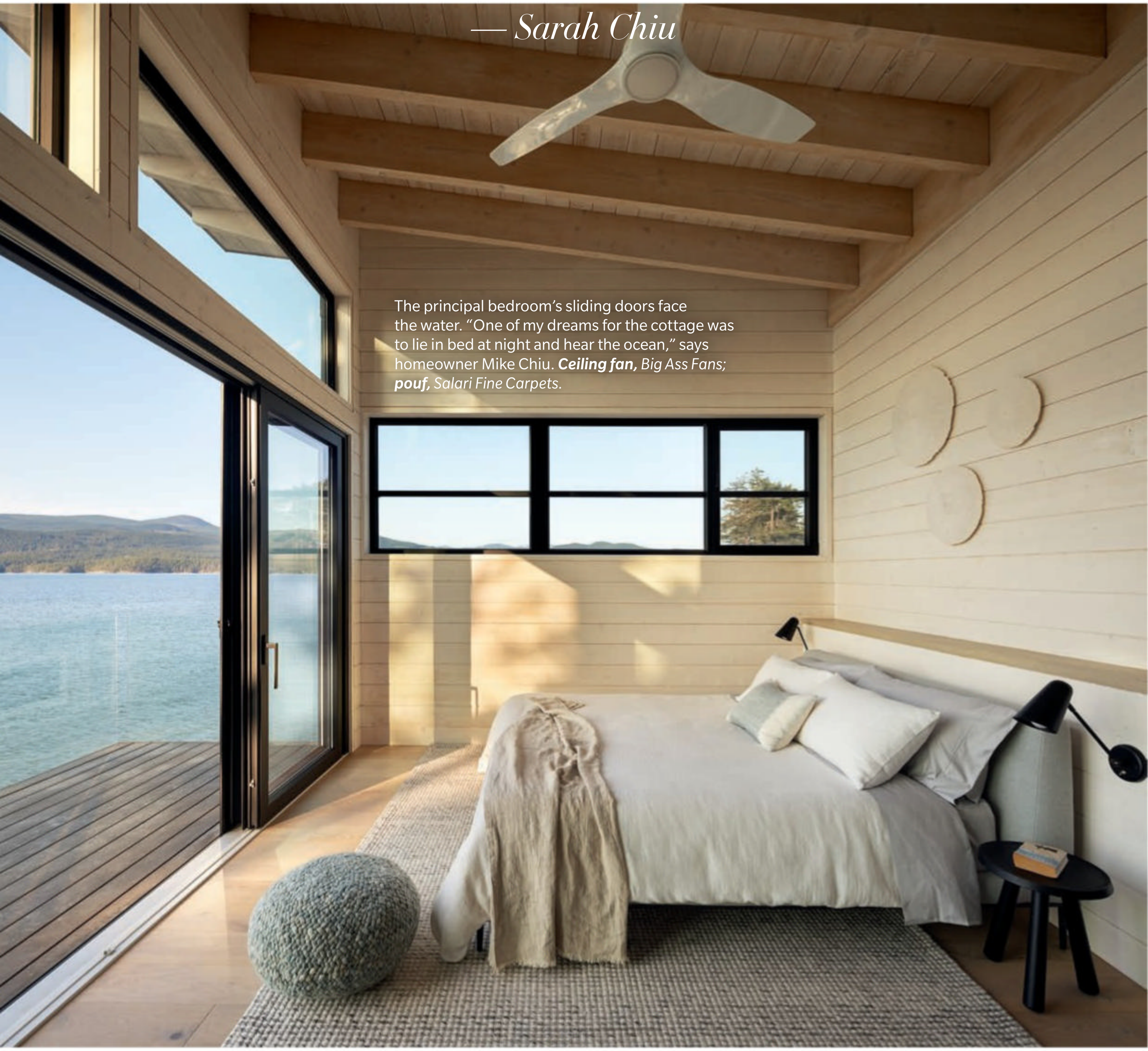
> DURING THE SUMMER, WE OFTEN SEE BOTH THE SUNRISE AND SUNSET OVER THE OCEAN
>
> *— Sarah Chiu*



The principal bedroom's sliding doors face the water. "One of my dreams for the cottage was to lie in bed at night and hear the ocean," says homeowner Mike Chiu. ***Ceiling fan,*** *Big Ass Fans;* ***pouf,*** *Salari Fine Carpets.*

OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT: The ensuite's floating vanity provides a niche for stacking folded towels and has ample counter space. ***Wall tile,*** *Daltile;* ***counter,*** *Caesarstone.*
OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT: Showering, like most island activities, comes with a spectacular view that's best enjoyed at sunrise.
OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT: Sheer drapes, a reproduction George Nelson Bubble pendant and simple, monochromatic linens create a cosy vibe in the guest room.

WEB To see another West Coast home with a soothing palette, visit **houseandhome.com/julyaugust2025**

Because of the secluded nature of the lot, they were able to forgo window coverings, allowing for unobstructed views. ***Wood-burning stove,*** *True North Stoves.*

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The Shape *of* Water

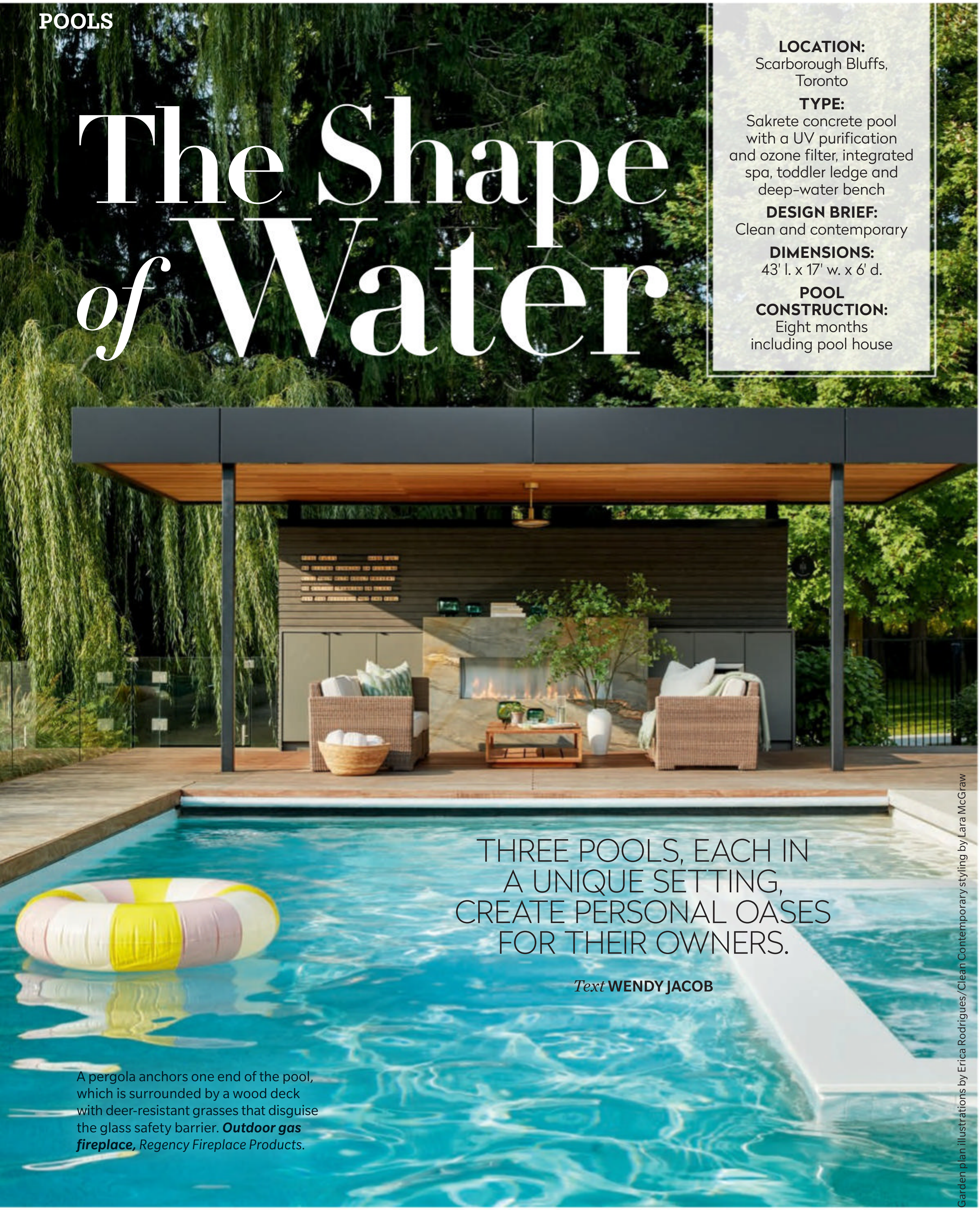
LOCATION:
Scarborough Bluffs, Toronto

TYPE:
Sakrete concrete pool with a UV purification and ozone filter, integrated spa, toddler ledge and deep-water bench

DESIGN BRIEF:
Clean and contemporary

DIMENSIONS:
43' l. x 17' w. x 6' d.

POOL CONSTRUCTION:
Eight months including pool house



THREE POOLS, EACH IN A UNIQUE SETTING, CREATE PERSONAL OASES FOR THEIR OWNERS.

Text **WENDY JACOB**

A pergola anchors one end of the pool, which is surrounded by a wood deck with deer-resistant grasses that disguise the glass safety barrier. ***Outdoor gas fireplace,*** *Regency Fireplace Products.*

Garden plan illustrations by Erica Rodrigues/Clean Contemporary styling by Lara McGraw

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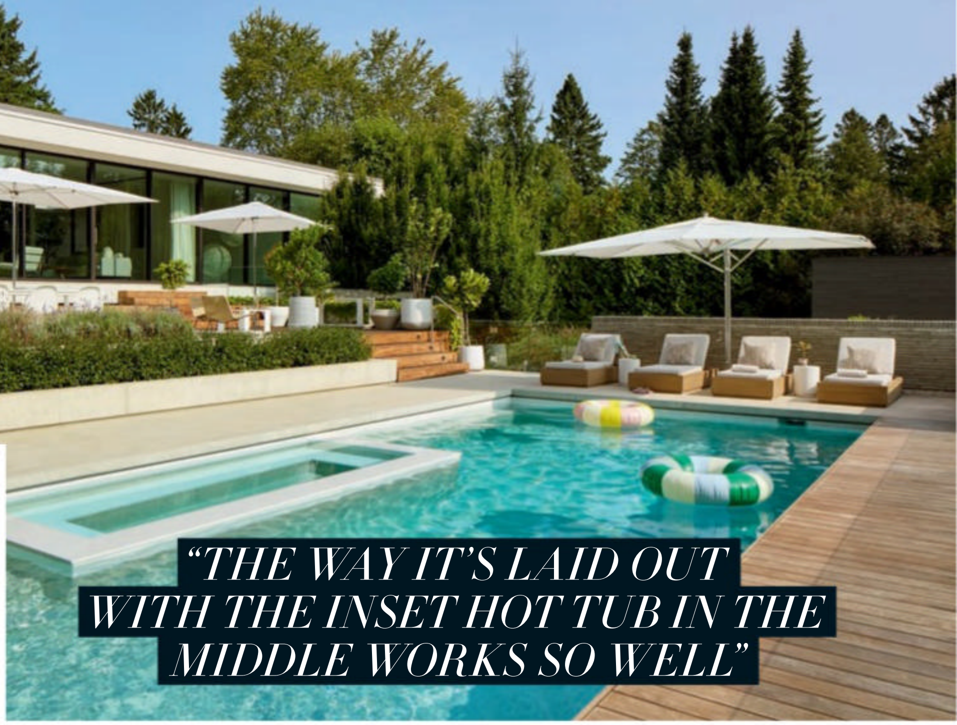
RIGHT: Homeowner and designer Julia Francisco broke with convention and built the hot tub in the centre of the pool. ***Umbrellas,*** *Tuuci;* ***outdoor dining table*** *by Case, Design Within Reach.* **BELOW:** A retail signage board displays the pool rules, but Julia wishes she had included "No saying, Watch this!" ***Outdoor cabinets,*** *Werever.*



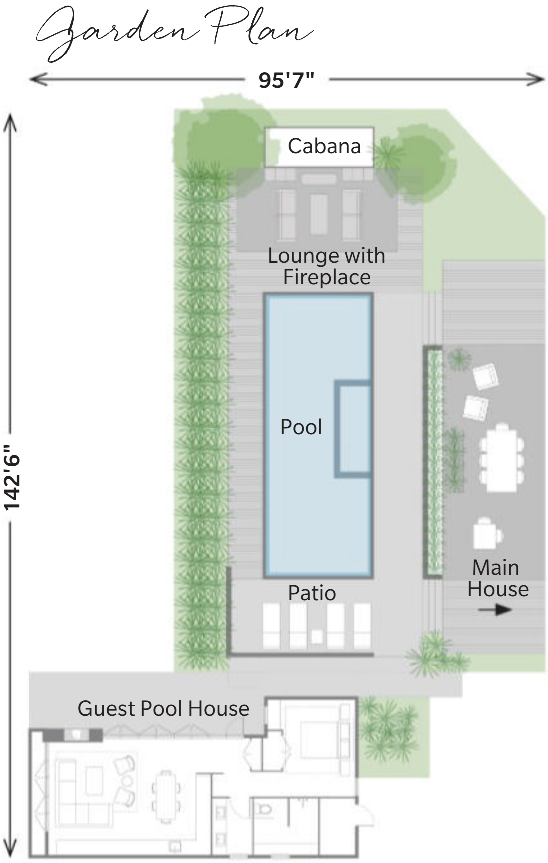
> *"THE WAY IT'S LAID OUT WITH THE INSET HOT TUB IN THE MIDDLE WORKS SO WELL"*

POOL RULES HAVE FUN!
NO DIVING RUNNING OR PUSHING
KIDS SWIM WITH ADULT PRESENT
NO EATING DRINKING OR GLASS
USE THE WASHROOM NOT THE POOL

1. Clean Contemporary

Design **JULIA FRANCISCO** | *Planting design* **JOEL LOBLAW**
Pool contractor **GIB-SAN POOLS** | *Photography* **COLIN FAULKNER**

THE BACKSTORY: Perched on Scarborough's lofty bluffs overlooking Lake Ontario, this pool seems worlds away from Toronto, more akin to a mid-century West Coast aerie. "I'm not a pool person," says homeowner and designer Julia Francisco. "I grew up with a cottage, so I didn't really know anything about pools." In 2015, she built a new modern bungalow after razing the derelict home that had sat empty on the lot for eight years. The plan also involved building a pool and guesthouse but, after Covid hit, it was difficult to secure a builder. "That ended up being a good thing because I needed a year of prep for the planning and permitting," she says with a laugh. Julia loved designing the pool. "The way it's laid out with the inset hot tub in the middle works so well," she says. An underwater ledge beside it allows kids to play safely while the parents relax in the hot tub. Julia took cues from the house's sleek exterior design when planning the four-season guest pool house, which has a kitchen and bathroom, plus a loggia with fireplace. She wanted it to be totally open to take advantage of the pool and lake views. "Because we're on the bluffs, the swirling sand gives the lake a Caribbean, turquoise look," she says. "When we moved in, friends asked if we felt exposed and we laughed. Who wouldn't want exposure to this setting?"



LEFT: Used as a guesthouse or workspace, the 1,000-square-foot pool house has an indoor-outdoor fireplace hearth and cedar canopy. ***Fireplace,*** *Flare Fireplaces;* ***pool coping and deck stone,*** *Elite Concrete;* ***flooring*** *(in loggia), Mirage Floors.*

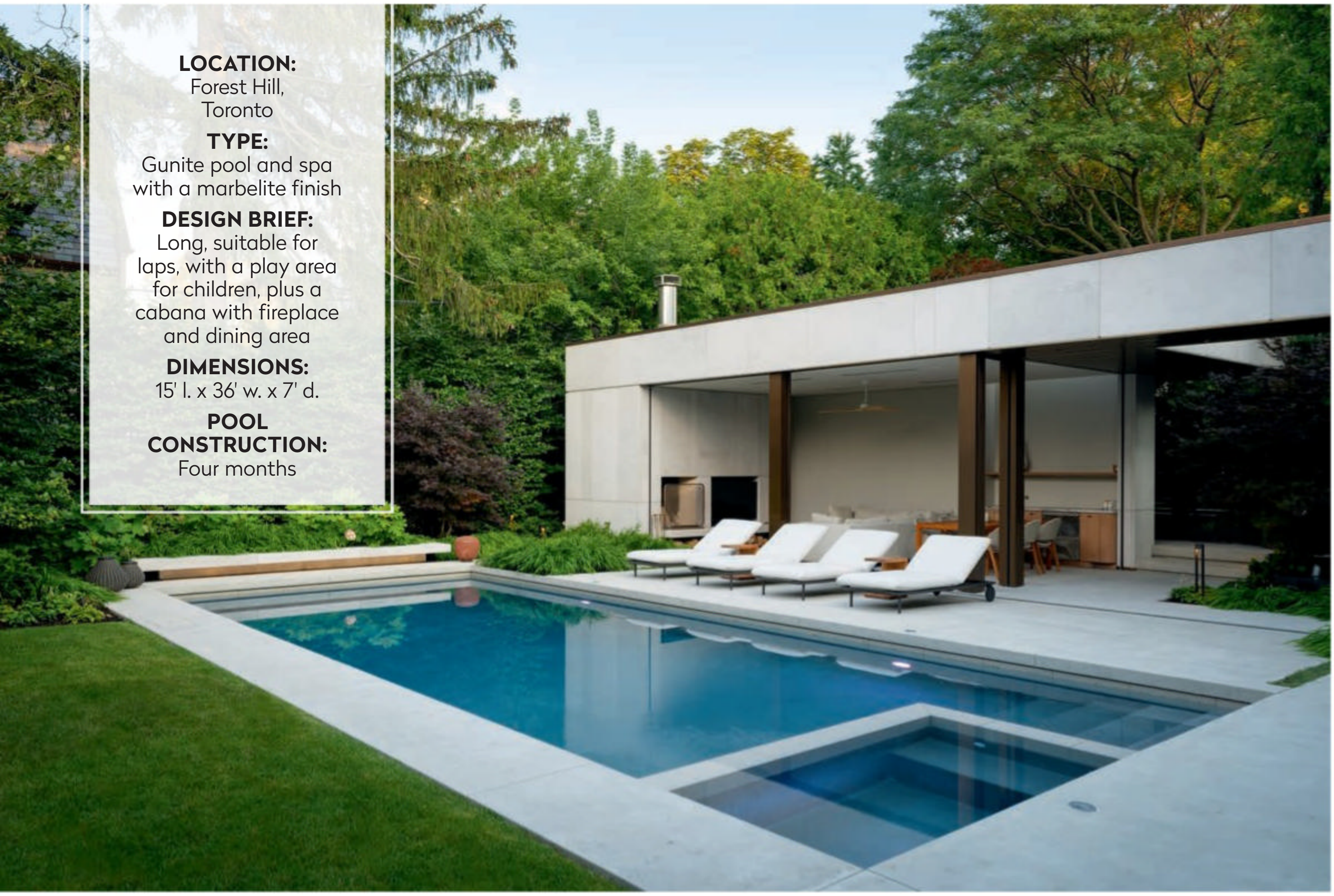
LOCATION:
Forest Hill, Toronto

TYPE:
Gunite pool and spa with a marbelite finish

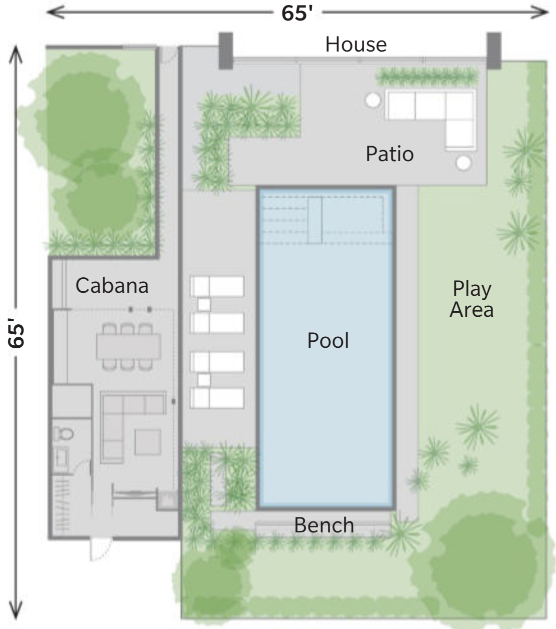
DESIGN BRIEF:
Long, suitable for laps, with a play area for children, plus a cabana with fireplace and dining area

DIMENSIONS:
15' l. x 36' w. x 7' d.

POOL CONSTRUCTION:
Four months



Garden Plan



TOP: The open cabana houses a fireplace, TV, dining area and servery with a bar, fridge and sink; a patch of grass gives the kids a play area. ***Kitchen counter, millwork,*** *Quintessential Co.;* ***dining table, chairs,*** *Tribù.*

2. Modern Urban Zen

Architecture **BOXER ARCHITECTS** | *Landscape architecture* **HOLBROOK & ASSOCIATES LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS** | *Landscape contracting* **ARBORDALE LANDSCAPING** | *Pool contractor* **TODD POOLS**
Photography **JEFF McNEILL**

THE BACKSTORY: “You can’t really differentiate what’s outside and what’s inside,” says architect Michael Boxer of this contemporary Toronto home, pool and cabana. As the architect of both the house and the outbuildings, he worked with Pencil Design to create a seamless experience. The clients wanted a Muskoka room in the city, but instead of placing it at the back of the house, Michael proposed an open cabana on the north side of the property, so that the pool could be elongated for laps. The cabana includes a courtyard with a Japanese maple growing through the open roof, as well as a wood-burning fireplace, dining area and servery, plus there’s a barbecue and concealed outdoor shower. “It was important to avoid the feeling of a big concrete donut terrace around the pool in the backyard,” says Michael. “We broke up the garden elements with little ‘bridges’ of large-format concrete terraces and patio areas.” Landscape architect Ronald Holbrook chose feathery Japanese forest grass to temper the hardscaping, with a row of European beeches for privacy. A limestone bench behind the deep end is lit at night and has become a favourite feature. “All four sides of this garden have a different personality,” says Michael. “The whole backyard feels like a green landscape with strategic features incorporated carefully within it.”

Interior design by Pencil Design/Build by Profile Development Group

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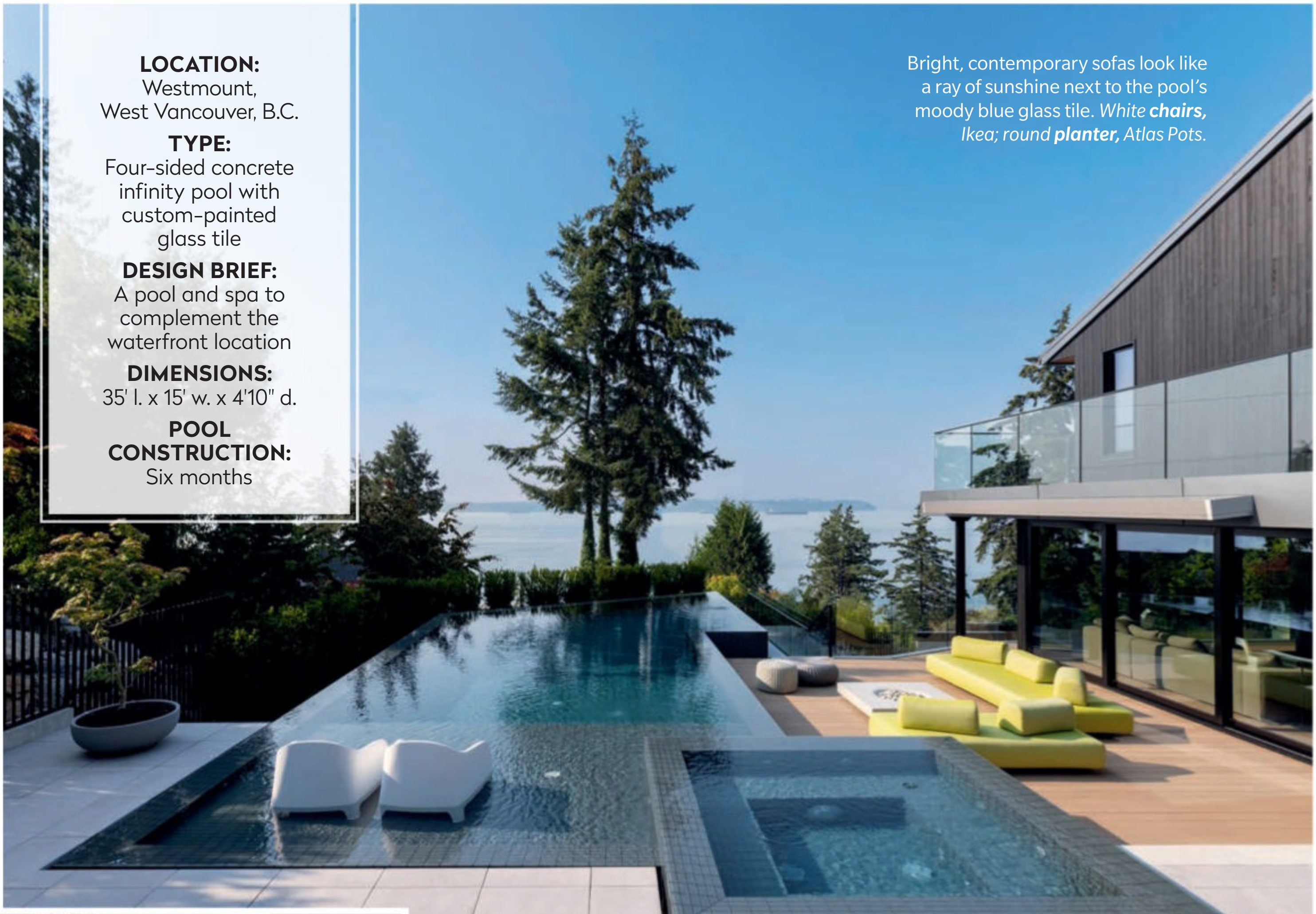
LEFT: The home's sliding glass doors supply dreamy pool views while soft pink and mauve perennials behind the outdoor sofa bloom from summer to fall. ***Outdoor sofa,*** *Tribù;* ***accent tables,*** *Hollace Cluny.*

"ALL FOUR SIDES OF THIS GARDEN HAVE A DIFFERENT PERSONALITY"

ABOVE: A retractable screen buffers wind and bugs. Ruby Slippers Oakleaf hydrangea and a Bloodgood Japanese maple add drama to the sterling limestone bench. ***Limestone bench*** *(far left), Traditional Cut Stone;* ***fireplace,*** *Rumford Fireplaces;* ***coffee table, rug,*** *Allan Rug Co.* **LEFT:** Large-scale architectural concrete terraces act as "bridges" throughout the garden, which are softened with Elfin thyme and Hakone grass. ***Chaises longues, woven outdoor lamp,*** *Tribù.*



LOCATION:
Westmount,
West Vancouver, B.C.

TYPE:
Four-sided concrete infinity pool with custom-painted glass tile

DESIGN BRIEF:
A pool and spa to complement the waterfront location

DIMENSIONS:
35' l. x 15' w. x 4'10" d.

POOL CONSTRUCTION:
Six months

Bright, contemporary sofas look like a ray of sunshine next to the pool's moody blue glass tile. *White* ***chairs,*** *Ikea; round* ***planter,*** *Atlas Pots.*

3. Oceanfront Infinity

Design **SHERRY HAKIMZADEH** | *Landscape master plan* **PAUL SANGHA CREATIVE**
Landscape design **ÉLEVÉ ATELIER** | *Pool contractor* **ALOHA POOLS**
Photography **JANIS NICOLAY**

THE BACKSTORY: It's hard to compete with the majesty of the Pacific Ocean, so homeowners Sherry and Ali Hakimzadeh decided to make their pool an homage to it. Sherry chose to line the pool in custom-painted glass tile. "We have a really nice ocean view; I wanted to mimic the colour of the water," says Sherry. "I didn't want a bright blue because Vancouver's weather is often dark and grey. When we're in the pool, it's like being in the ocean." Located in West Vancouver's Westmount neighbourhood, the house had an old deck with a gorgeous view, but a garden full of boulders wedged against the home blocked the flow. Sherry's goal was to create a seamless outdoor living experience, with an infinity pool and well-equipped outdoor kitchen that included an impressive pizza oven and convertible barbecue. The heated pool allows Sherry and her teen daughters to swim in December. "We use the hot tub after skiing, so having it close to the house is so convenient." She admits that the painted glass tile was an expense, but reasoned the cost was worth it since the pool is visible every day from the family room and kitchen. "The pool is a piece of art," she says. "At night, with the lights on around it, it's just beautiful."

ABOVE: Ali Hakimzadeh insisted the luxe pizza oven serve as centerpiece for the outdoor kitchen. "That's my husband's beauty; he's in love with that oven," says Sherry Hakimzadeh *(pictured)*. ***Outdoor kitchen,*** *Livingspace Outdoor.*

Contracting by Nader Shabdiz, NSR Contracting

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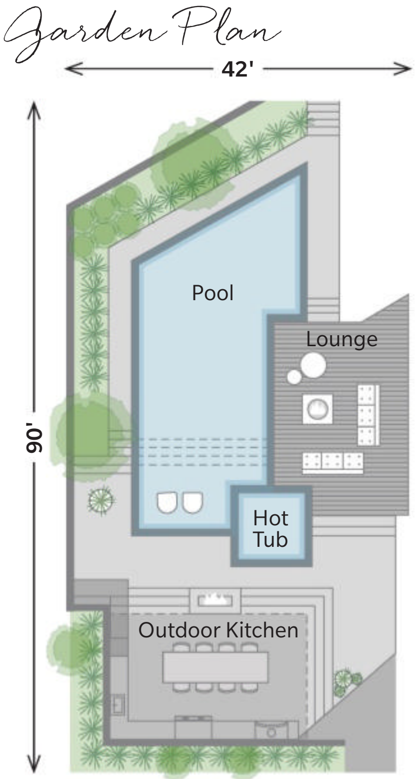


> “WE HAVE A REALLY NICE OCEAN VIEW; I WANTED TO MIMIC THE COLOUR OF THE WATER”

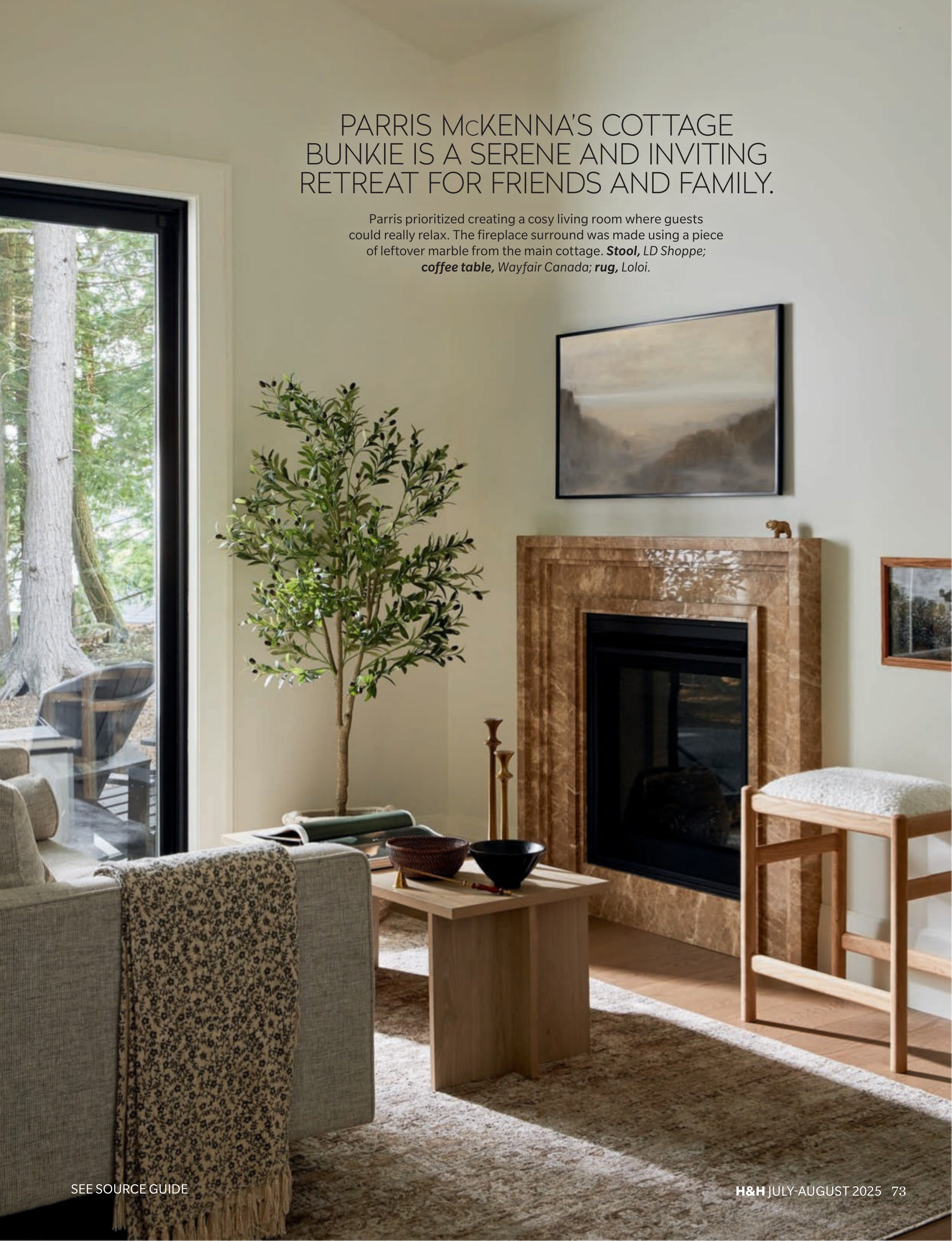
ABOVE: A pergola shades the outdoor kitchen, which includes a pizza oven, plate warmer, fridge and ice maker. ***Pergola,*** *Struxure;* ***barbecue,*** *Kalamazoo Outdoor Gourmet;* ***pizza oven,*** *Alfa Forni;* ***ice maker, fridge,*** *Perlick.*
LEFT: Acting as an extension of the adjoining family room, an engineered oak deck breaks up the stone patio and creates an indoor-outdoor vibe. ***Retractable awning,*** *Atria Designs;* ***outdoor sofas and woven poufs*** *by Paola Lenti, Livingspace Outdoor;* ***fire table,*** *Solus Decor;* ***composite wood deck,*** *TimberTech;* ***limestone deck,*** *Adera Natural Stone Supply.*

WEB For more pool and landscaping inspiration, visit **houseandhome.com/julyaugust2025**

Design **PARRIS McKENNA DESIGN**
Photography **LAUREN MILLER**
Text **LISA VAN DE GEYN**

LITTLE WONDER

Designer Parris McKenna and Sasha at the entry. The bunkie is clad in black board-and-batten.



PARRIS McKENNA'S COTTAGE BUNKIE IS A SERENE AND INVITING RETREAT FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

Parris prioritized creating a cosy living room where guests could really relax. The fireplace surround was made using a piece of leftover marble from the main cottage. ***Stool,*** *LD Shoppe;* ***coffee table,*** *Wayfair Canada;* ***rug,*** *Loloi.*

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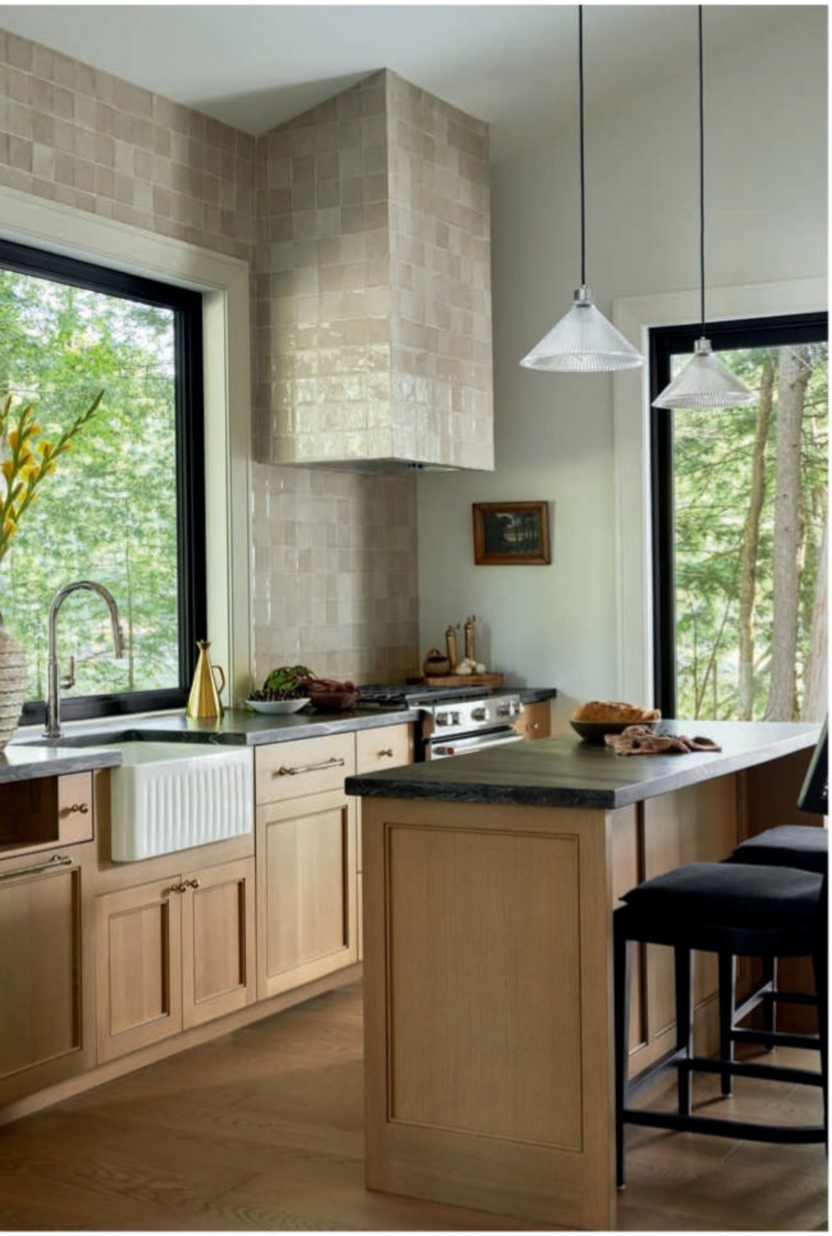

TOP LEFT: "The ceramic tile from Italy has an artisanal vibe — it looks handmade and irregular, and it catches the light so nicely," says Parris. "I didn't want something flat — I wanted texture." ***Tile,*** *Creekside Tile Company.*
BOTTOM LEFT: Trees and gardens line the gravel paths leading to the bunkie.

BUNKIES AREN'T MEANT to be the stars of the show — they're overflow sleeping quarters for when main cottages need to accommodate extra guests. Parris McKenna's bunkie, however, doesn't play second fiddle to her family's four-season, 4,000-square-foot cottage on Lake Muskoka. The elevated yet comfortable mini cottage stands a short distance away, separated by a little stream, and it's become a special spot for visitors who've travelled from afar to experience Ontario's cottage country.

Parris and her husband, Fraser, bought the nearly one-and-a-half-hectare property outside of Gravenhurst in 2021. In December 2023, they enlisted Cottage Country Builders to construct a four-season bunkie, which took seven months to complete. "We love to host family from out of town," says Parris. "Our goal was to give guests their own space where they could feel completely comfortable."

The property is very woodsy, but bright and open at the same time. Coming down the long driveway, you're greeted by board-and-batten buildings with natural stone veneer that blend in with the scenery. "Feeling surrounded by nature is my favourite thing about the bunkie," says the designer. "Everything is seamless, and it flows — it's peaceful."

The bunkie's design is aligned with the main residence, but it has its own identity, like a "little sister" cottage. The two-bedroom, one-bathroom space feels warm, cosy and inviting, and easily transitions through the seasons. "You see a lot of modern white shiplap and black hardware here in Muskoka, but the bunkie reflects my West Coast–inspired aesthetic with hits of old world charm," says Parris.

The biggest challenge was getting everything she wanted into 650 square feet. "I had to be very

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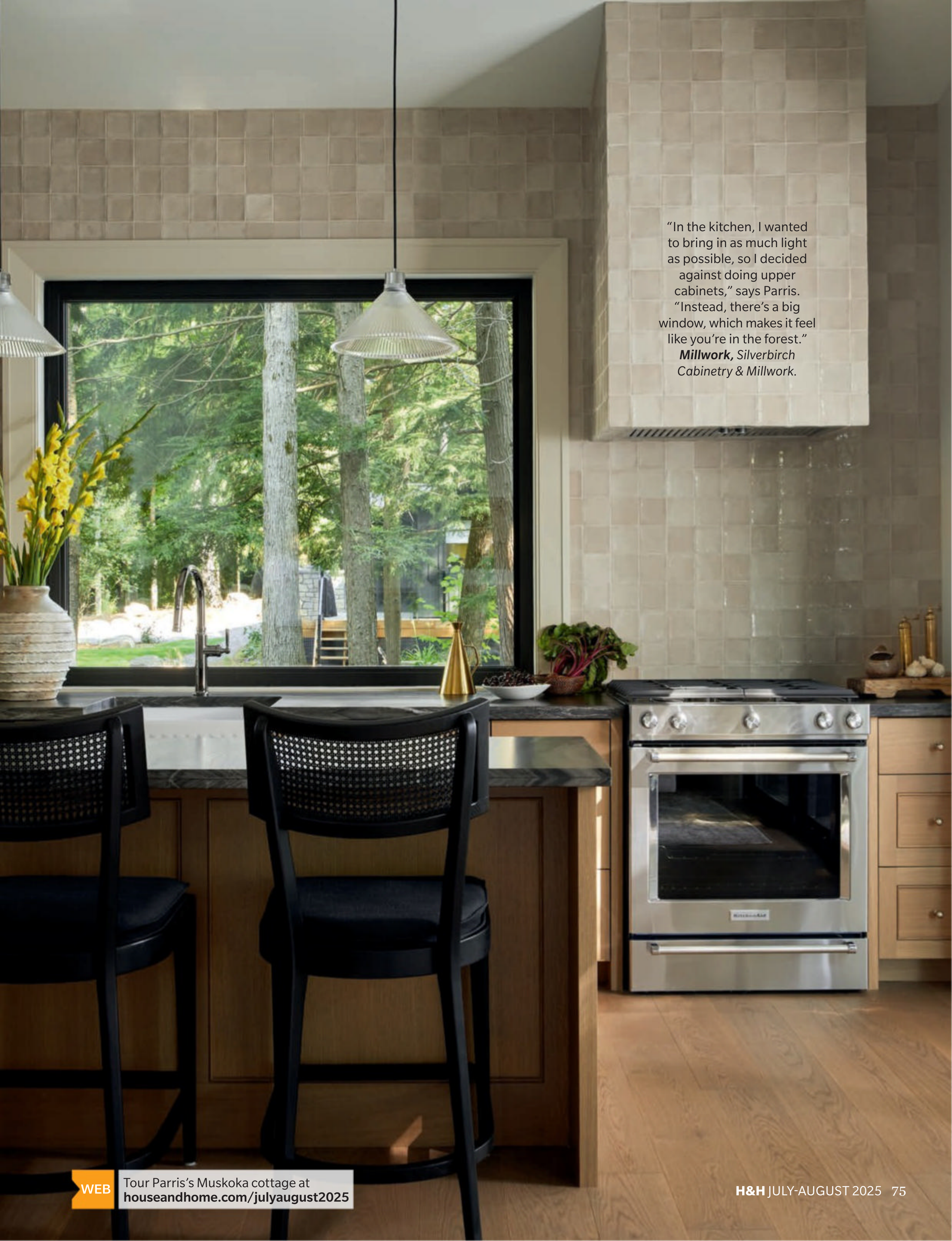
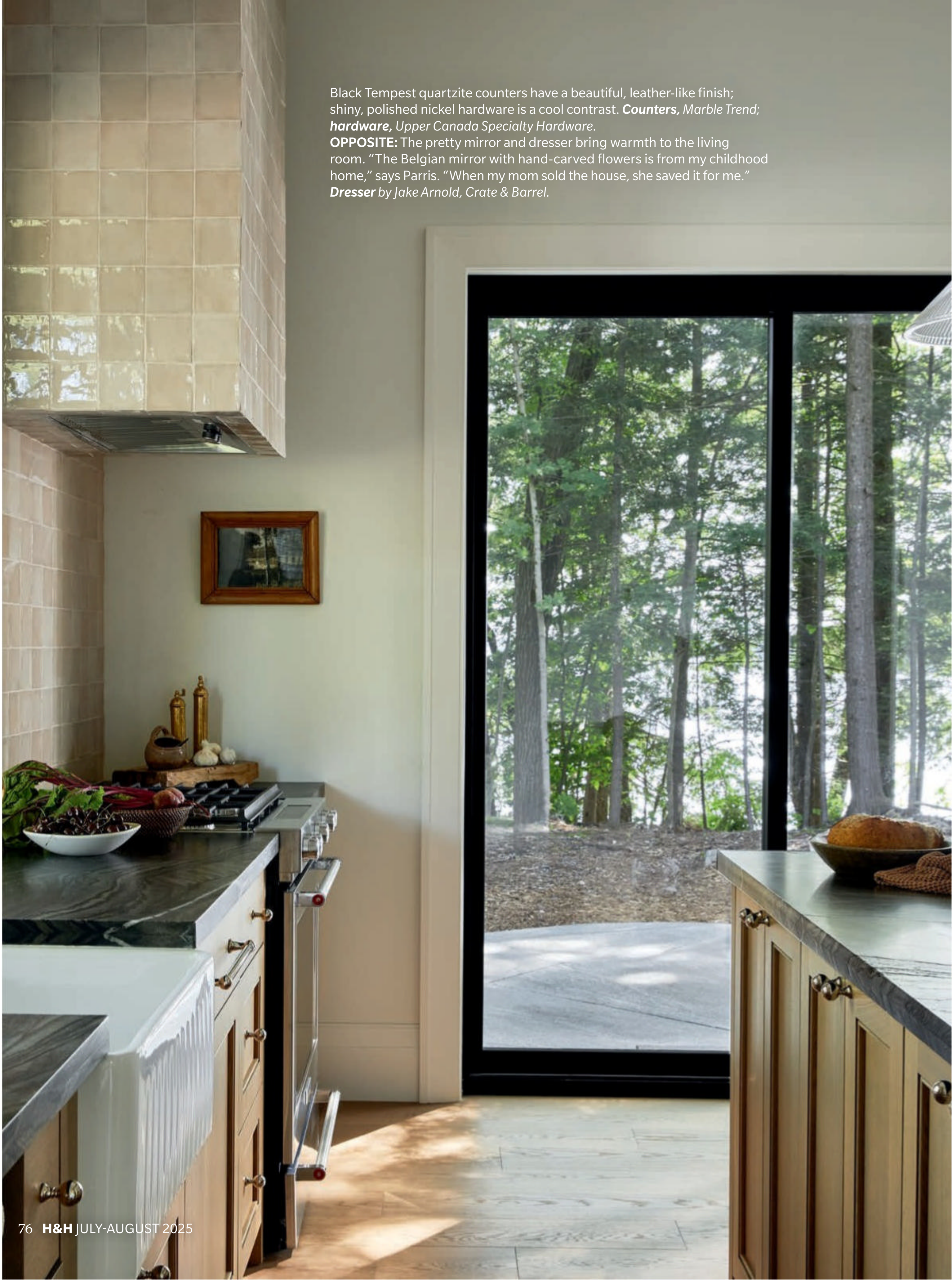


"In the kitchen, I wanted to bring in as much light as possible, so I decided against doing upper cabinets," says Parris. "Instead, there's a big window, which makes it feel like you're in the forest." ***Millwork,*** *Silverbirch Cabinetry & Millwork.*

WEB Tour Parris's Muskoka cottage at
houseandhome.com/julyaugust2025



Black Tempest quartzite counters have a beautiful, leather-like finish; shiny, polished nickel hardware is a cool contrast. ***Counters,*** *Marble Trend;* ***hardware,*** *Upper Canada Specialty Hardware.*
OPPOSITE: The pretty mirror and dresser bring warmth to the living room. "The Belgian mirror with hand-carved flowers is from my childhood home," says Parris. "When my mom sold the house, she saved it for me." ***Dresser*** *by Jake Arnold, Crate & Barrel.*

“FEELING SURROUNDED BY NATURE IS MY FAVOURITE THING ABOUT THE BUNKIE. EVERYTHING IS SEAMLESS, AND IT FLOWS — IT’S PEACEFUL”

intentional about the layout and the colour palette. I didn’t want to overdo it, but I also didn’t want it to feel stark.” The 11-foot-tall ceilings (and 15 feet at the peak) make the bunkie airy while the calming palette of russet, umber browns, soft creams and muted blacks keep it homey yet chic.

Ruffled bed linens, woven accessories, off-white walls in Benjamin Moore’s Swiss Coffee, natural elements including white oak floors, quartzite counters and a marble fireplace surround, plus the views of the lake, trees and gardens add to the serenity visitors endlessly refer to when staying here.

The family currently lives at the cottage full time but, in September, they’ll move back to the city and Muskoka will be where they spend weekends, holidays and summers.

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“OUR GOAL WAS TO GIVE GUESTS THEIR OWN SPACE WHERE THEY COULD FEEL COMPLETELY COMFORTABLE”

TOP RIGHT: Above the queen-size bed in the second bedroom is a bunk that younger guests always enjoy. *Custom **roman shade** by Antoinette Van Speyk, Blinds, Drapes & Bedding; **sconce,** Light House Co.; **throw** by Tiffany Leigh Design, Tuck; **bed linens,** Garnet Hill.*
BOTTOM LEFT: “I wanted something toned down and minimalist in the bathroom, and the white Carrara marble and creamy Botticino tile combination was perfect,” says Parris. ***Tile,** Creekside Tile Company; **shower fixtures,** Etsy; **vanity,** Pottery Barn Canada.*

In the warmer months, Parris, Fraser and their two young children go boating (“We love looking at all the fancy cottages on Lakes Muskoka, Rosseau and Joseph,” says Parris), and they visit farmers’ markets and hike at Hardy Lake Provincial Park with their goldendoodle, Sasha, in tow. Evenings end with roasting s’mores, of course — a granite bridge over the stream leads the way from the bunkie to the firepit.

“We love to entertain here. Last year, we hosted our inaugural cousins’ weekend with all of my first cousins and their spouses and kids — there were 22 of us. It’s so nice to have the bunkie so we can accommodate everyone,” says Parris. “I want people who visit to feel like they can just relax. Guests come in and sit in their wet bathing suits all the time and, in the winter, there are always snowmobile suits and gloves drying on the floor. To me, you can’t have a space that’s so precious that it can’t be functional.”

Without a doubt, being by the lake and surrounded by greenery is good for the soul. “At the bunkie, you really feel like you’re in this perfect little bubble inside a big, beautiful forest; it’s a special spot where everyone’s welcome.” H&H

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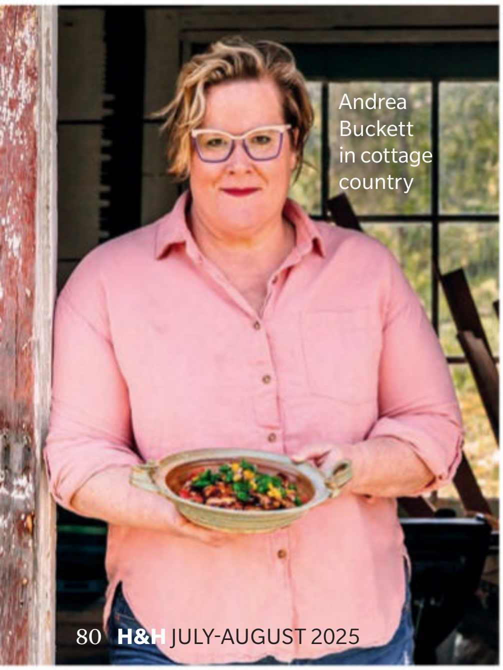
In the principal bedroom is a headboard made by a family friend — Parris moved it to the bunkie from their old house. “We needed a headboard and this rustic piece really works for the bunkie; I love the way it looks in the room,” she says.

The Taste of SUMMER

ANDREA BUCKETT SHARES HER BEST COTTAGE FARE.

Photography **BETTY SHIN BINON**



Andrea Buckett in cottage country

IF YOU'RE A GUEST at a country house or cottage this summer, consider *The Essential Cottage Cookbook* on your quest for a great gift. If you're the one cooking, we think you'll enjoy these recipes, plus the many more from author and serious cottager Andrea Buckett, who you may know from her frequent guest spots on *Breakfast Television* and Mary Berg's *The Good Stuff.*

The recipes are simple, uncomplicated and require minimal tools — they're what most of us want to eat on lazy, hot summer days. Part nostalgia, often indulgent and, sometimes, very healthy, the recipes include all of the above.

One favourite chapter is "Make It and Take It," which offers dishes you can make ahead and then finish off when you arrive at the lake. They're perfect for those potluck weekends. There's also a section on being a good host, one for cottage renters and how to stock a cottage pantry. But most of all, the recipes work, and the ones we chose to include are especially delicious.

SEE SHOPPING LIST

RECIPES

GRILLED ZUCCHINI & MOZZARELLA SALAD WITH PESTO

STEAK FAJITAS WITH CHIMICHURRI AVOCADOS

MAPLE-DIJON CHICKEN THIGHS WITH SNAP PEA SALSA

LEMON-PEPPER SHRIMP ROLLS

RECIPE, PG. 86

GRILLED ZUCCHINI & MOZZARELLA SALAD WITH PESTO

"Tossed with a sweet basil pesto and adorned with creamy mozzarella and crispy radish rounds, this salad is a stone-cold stunner!"

Recipes excerpted from *The Essential Cottage Cookbook* by Andrea Buckett. ©2025 Andrea Buckett. Photographs by Betty Shin Binon. Published by Appetite by Random House, a division of Penguin Random House Canada Limited. Reproduced by arrangement with the Publisher. All rights reserved

RECIPE, PG. 86

STEAK FAJITAS WITH CHIMICHURRI AVOCADOS

“Flank steak is a fantastic cut of meat for this recipe, falling somewhere between a marinating and a grilling steak.”

RECIPE, PG. 87

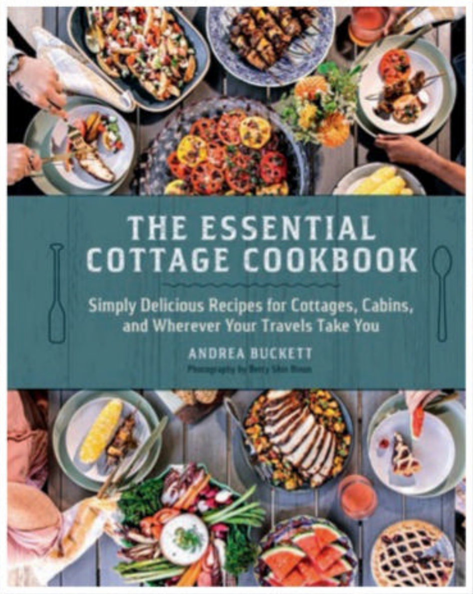
MAPLE-DIJON CHICKEN THIGHS WITH SNAP PEA SALSA

“Fresh, crisp snap pea salsa on warm grilled chicken creates a remarkable textural and temperature contrast that’s both unexpected and completely addictive.”

The **Maple-dijon Chicken Thighs, Steak Fajitas** and **Grilled Zucchini & Mozzarella Salad** are for the barbecue, but you can easily adapt them to cook in your oven. The **Lemon-pepper Shrimp Rolls** are made on the stovetop using small cooked salad shrimp, lemon and mayo, which is piled onto toasted buns. Plus, there are plenty of fresh summer cocktails in Andrea’s chapter on the perfect happy hour.

A lifelong cottager in Ontario’s Haliburton region, Andrea has mastered the cottage kitchen and the crowd-pleasing recipes to match. Enjoy!

SEE SHOPPING LIST



THE ESSENTIAL
COTTAGE COOKBOOK

Simply Delicious Recipes for Cottages, Cabins,
and Wherever Your Travels Take You

ANDREA BUCKETT

The Essential Cottage Cookbook.
Appetite by Random House, 2025, $38.

RECIPE, PG. 87

LEMON-PEPPER SHRIMP ROLLS

"The recipe uses fresh lemon pieces instead of a dry seasoning blend, which lends a bright citrus punch of lemon flavour."

ASK A CHEF

Joey Restaurants executive chef Matthew Stowe shares his popular Roasted Corn Guacamole recipe.

Q: I went to happy hour at Joey Shipyards in North Vancouver with some friends and had the most addictive roasted corn guacamole. Can you get the recipe? **— JANE,** *North Vancouver, B.C.*

A: Chef Matthew was inspired by the sweet summer corn that grows in Chilliwack, B.C., near his home in the Fraser Valley. "It just reminds me of summertime barbecues with family and friends," says Matthew. This guacamole combines rich, creamy avocado with lots of lime juice, fresh cilantro and serrano chilis. "And by adding fresh corn, you get these exciting bursts of sweetness and texture." Pair this dip with tortilla chips and a margarita or ice-cold beer on a hot summer day.

See page 92 for recipe.

Send your questions to letters@hhmedia.com

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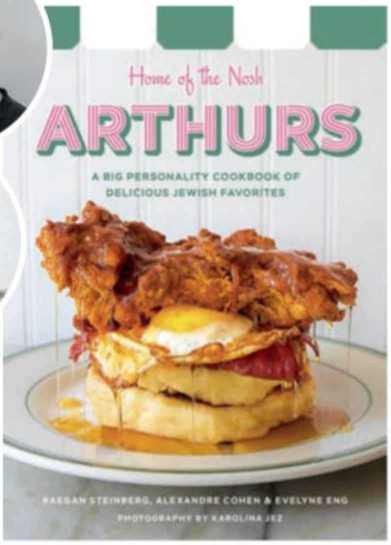

Home of the Nosh

ARTHURS

A BIG PERSONALITY COOKBOOK OF DELICIOUS JEWISH FAVORITES

RAEGAN STEINBERG, ALEXANDRE COHEN & EVELYNE ENG

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KAROLINA JEZ

COOKBOOK OF THE MONTH

***Arthurs: Home of the Nosh* by Raegan Steinberg, Alexandre Cohen and Evelyne Eng**

This debut cookbook is from Alexandre and Raegan (*pictured*), the husband-and-wife team behind Montreal's famous Arthurs Nosh Bar, and is co-authored with Evelyne Eng. Inside, you'll find more than 115 classic Jewish breakfast, brunch and lunch recipes — try the hearty **All-dressed Almond Oats,** or go iconic with the **Latkes.** *Appetite by Random House, 2025, $40.*

WEB EXCLUSIVE! For recipes from this book, visit **houseandhome.com/julyaugust2025**

Tanqueray
FLOR DE SEVILLA

SWEET SIPPER

FRESH SQUEEZE

Tanqueray's new **Flor de Sevilla gin** brings the juicy flavour of sun-drenched Spanish oranges to a classic G&T — just in time for cocktail hour! Best enjoyed with tonic and a slice of orange. *$35/25 oz. LCBO.*

Produced and text by Simone Olivero/Photography by Tyler Nacke (Alexandre's portrait)/Karolina Jez (Raegan's portrait)/courtesy of Joey Restaurants (Matthew's portrait, guacamole)/Nespresso (coffee pod)/President's Choice (firepit)/Tanqueray (gin)/Appetite by Random House (cookbook)

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RECIPES

AS SHOWN ON PAGES 80 TO 83

These recipes are from The Essential Cottage Cookbook *by Andrea Buckett. Appetite by Random House, 2025, $38.*

Grilled Zucchini & Mozzarella Salad with Pesto

SERVES 4

Nut-free Arugula & Basil Pesto (batch)

3 *cloves garlic*
½ *cup hemp seeds*
½ *tsp salt*
½ *tsp pepper*
2 *cups packed arugula*
2 *cups packed fresh basil*
½ *cup canola oil*
3 *tbsp olive oil, plus more to taste*
1 *tbsp lemon juice*
½ *cup grated Parmesan cheese*

Grilled Zucchini & Mozzarella Salad with Pesto

3 *zucchini, halved lengthwise*
2 *tsp oil*
10 *cherry tomatoes, halved*
¼ *cup Nut-free Arugula & Basil Pesto (see above) or store-bought pesto*
Salt and pepper
7 *oz. ball fresh mozzarella cheese, drained (see note)*
4 *radishes, thinly sliced*
Torn fresh basil, for garnish

MAKE PESTO

1. In food processor, combine garlic, hemp seeds, salt and pepper. Process on low for 20 to 30 seconds, scraping down sides of bowl as needed, until mixture looks like sand.

2. Tear up arugula and add to food processor. Add basil, canola oil, olive oil and lemon juice. Process on low for 30 to 45 seconds, scraping down sides of bowl as needed. Add cheese and process on low for 10 seconds. If you like pesto a little thinner, add about 1 tbsp more olive oil.

3. Transfer pesto to glass jar or airtight container. Store in fridge for up to 2 weeks.

MAKE SALAD

1. Preheat clean barbecue to high heat (425°F to 450°F). Brush zucchini with oil. Grill for about 3 minutes per side, or until dark grill marks appear and zucchini is still tender-crisp. Don't overcook or it will get soggy as it cools. Transfer zucchini to plate to cool.

2. Cut cooled zucchini on bias into 1" pieces. If not preparing the salad immediately, transfer zucchini to airtight container and refrigerate for up to 2 days.

3. In large bowl, combine zucchini, tomatoes and Nut-free Arugula & Basil Pesto. Season with salt and pepper, and stir to combine. Arrange salad on serving plate.

4. Rip cheese into bite-size pieces and scatter on top of vegetables. Garnish with radishes and basil. Serve immediately.

Note: Don't use a block of mozzarella for this recipe. Instead, opt for fresh mozzarella that's stored in water. It's much more tender and has a milder, milkier flavour.

Steak Fajitas with Chimichurri Avocados

SERVES 4 TO 6

Lemon Chimichurri (batch)

4 *cloves garlic*
1 *shallot, quartered*
1 *jalapeño pepper, cut into 1" pieces (see note)*
2 *cups packed fresh parsley, leaves and stems*
2 *cups packed fresh cilantro, leaves and stems*
Grated zest and juice 1 lemon
½ *cup oil*
1 *tbsp red wine vinegar*
½ *tsp salt*
¼ *tsp chili flakes*
1 *tbsp dried oregano*

Steak Fajitas with Chimichurri Avocados

½ *cup freshly squeezed orange juice*
1 *tbsp oil*
2 *tsp dried oregano*
2 *tsp chili powder*
1 *tsp smoked paprika*
½ *tsp salt*
2 *lbs. flank steak*
12 *flour tortillas*
3 *avocados, diced*
⅓ *cup Lemon Chimichurri (see previous column)*
Shredded cabbage
Diced oranges
Fresh cilantro leaves
Hot sauce

MAKE CHIMICHURRI

1. In food processor, combine garlic, shallots and jalapeños. Process on low for 15 to 20 seconds, or until vegetables are minced. Scrape down sides of bowl.

2. Tear parsley and cilantro into thirds and add to food processor. Add lemon zest and juice, oil, vinegar, salt and chili flakes. Process on low for 20 to 30 seconds, scraping down sides of bowl as needed, until herbs are finely chopped and everything is well combined. Don't overprocess, or chimichurri will become watery.

3. Transfer chimichurri to airtight container or glass jar and stir in oregano. Store in fridge for up to 2 weeks.

MAKE FAJITAS

1. In small bowl, combine orange juice, oil, oregano, chili powder, paprika and salt to make marinade.

2. Place steak in shallow dish and pour in marinade. Cover and marinate in fridge for at least 60 minutes, or up to 8 hours.

3. Preheat clean barbecue to high heat (400°F to 425°F). Place steak on barbecue, discarding marinade. Grill

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steak for 25 to 30 minutes (longer for thicker steaks), turning occasionally, until it reaches internal temperature of 135°F. Turn off barbecue. Transfer steak to large cutting board and tent with foil, about 10 minutes. Residual heat will bring up temperature to 145°F, or medium-rare.

4. Wrap tortillas in foil and place on barbecue to warm slightly while steak rests.

5. Meanwhile, in medium bowl, combine avocados and Lemon Chimichurri.

6. Slice steak across grain into long, thin pieces. Place some sliced steak in middle of each tortilla and top with cabbage, oranges, cilantro, hot sauce and avocados. Store leftovers separately in airtight containers, where they will keep in fridge for up to 3 days.

Note: If you like things spicy, keep the jalapeño seeds and white pith intact. Otherwise, discard. Or go half in and half out… you call the shots!

Maple-dijon Chicken Thighs with Snap Pea Salsa

SERVES 6

Maple-dijon Chicken Thighs

¼ cup Dijon mustard
¼ cup maple syrup
2 tbsp oil
1 tsp onion powder
1 tsp garlic powder
½ tsp salt
2 lbs. boneless skinless chicken thighs (about 12)

Snap Pea Salsa

15 oz. package sugar snap peas, trimmed and cut into ¼" pieces
1 yellow bell pepper, diced
½ small red onion, diced
1 cup grape tomatoes, halved
2 tbsp oil

PREPARE CHICKEN THIGHS

1. In large bowl, combine mustard, maple syrup, oil, onion powder, garlic powder and salt. Add chicken and toss to coat. Marinate in fridge while preparing salsa.

MAKE SALSA

1. In small bowl, combine snap peas, peppers, onions and tomatoes. Season with salt and pepper, and toss with oil. Refrigerate, covered, until ready to serve.

GRILL CHICKEN AND SERVE

1. Preheat clean barbecue to medium-high heat (375°F to 400°F). Place chicken on barbecue, discarding marinade. Grill chicken, turning occasionally, for about 20 minutes, or until chicken is golden brown and juices run clear when chicken is pierced.

2. Transfer chicken to platter and top with Snap Pea Salsa. Leftovers can be served warm or cold and will keep in airtight container in fridge for up to 3 days.

Lemon-pepper Shrimp Rolls

MAKES 4 ROLLS

16 oz. cooked small salad shrimp, thawed if frozen (see note)
1 lemon
2 green onions, sliced
½ cup mayonnaise
1 tsp pepper
2 tbsp butter
4 top-loading hotdog buns (see note)
1 cup hickory sticks or barbecue chips

MAKE SHRIMP ROLLS

1. Lay out shrimp on paper towels and pat dry.

2. Peel lemon and remove all white pith to reveal bright yellow flesh. Finely dice flesh into tiny pieces. Measure out ½ cup of diced lemon and reserve any extra for another use.

3. In bowl, combine shrimp, diced lemon, green onions, mayonnaise and pepper, stirring well.

4. Heat frying pan over medium heat. Spread butter on inside of each hotdog bun. Fry buns, buttered-side down, until insides are toasted and golden brown.

5. Portion shrimp salad into buns and top with hickory sticks or barbecue chips.

Note: Imitation crab, canned tuna or salmon will work in place of shrimp. Any buns will work, including hamburger or kaiser rolls, but top-loading hotdog buns are best because they don't split in half while you're trying to fill them.

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West Elm, westelm.com
Wynil, wynil.com
Xenia Taler, xeniataler.com

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Source Guide

NEW HORIZONS

NEW HORIZONS *Pages 38 to 47*

Architecture, Kyra Clarkson, Kyra Clarkson Architect, (416) 466-4709 or kyraclarksonarchitect.ca; design, Sam Sacks, Sam Sacks Design, (416) 451-0733 or samsacksdesign.com.

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Shayne Fox Hardware, shaynefoxhardware.com
Squire John's, squirejohns.com
Visual Comfort, visualcomfort.com
West Elm, westelm.ca

Hardwood flooring, Relative Space. ***Page 39:*** Armchairs, CB2; rug, Lulu and Georgia. ***Page 40:*** Flush-mount light fixture, Long Made Co; tile, Opustone. ***Page 41:* Top:** Loungers, Squire John's. ***Page 42:* Top left:** Pendant lighting by Bocci, Hollace Cluny; sofa design, Sam Sacks Design. **Bottom left:** Flush-mount light fixtures, Long Made Co; stools, AAVVGG. ***Page 43:*** Appliance pulls, Shayne Fox Hardware. ***Page 44:*** Landscaping, Margaret Curtis Landscape Design. ***Page 45:* Bottom:** Articulated sconce, Doozie Light Studio; upholstered bed frame, Lulu and Georgia; nightstand, CB2. ***Page 46:*** Four-poster bed frame, nightstand, Crate & Barrel; articulated sconces by Aerin, Visual Comfort. ***Page 47:* Top left:** Swivel armchairs, Crate & Barrel; coffee table, West Elm. **Centre right:** Table lamp, CB2; coffee table, Hauer Market. **Bottom centre:** Tub, France and Son Canada.

TREASURED ISLAND

TREASURED ISLAND *Pages 48 to 57*

Design, Angela Wheeler, Angela Wheeler Design, angelawheelerdesign.com.

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Contractor, Jones Carpentry. ***Page 49:*** Pine for walls and floors, Carson Lake Lumber. ***Page 50:* Top right:** Cabinet maker, Wheelers Studio; counter fabrication, Renovare Marble and Granite. **Bottom left:** Pendant by Il Fanale, TouchGoods; dining chairs by Hay, Design Within Reach; dining table, Nummii Vintage + Furniture; banquette cushion fabrication, Alo Upholstery & Interiors; patterned throw pillow, Etsy. ***Page 52:*** Green sofa, Whittington & Co.; green sofa upholstery fabric, Threadcount Textile & Design; red sofa slipcover fabric, Kravet Canada; coffee table design, Angela Wheeler Design. ***Page 55:* Top right:** Plaid armchair, Ikea. **Bottom left:** Lampshade by Cressida Bell; side table, Country Sampler Antiques; rug, eCarpetGallery. **Bottom centre:** Rug, Dash & Albert. ***Page 56:*** Bed frame design, Angela Wheeler Design; bed frame upholstery, Alo Upholstery & Interiors; sconce by Visual Comfort; blue comforter, Etsy; patterned blanket, Schoolhouse; rug by Paulig, Habitat Decor. ***Page 57:* Top right:** Sconces by Hudson Valley Lighting; counter, Neolith; vanity design, Angela Wheeler Design. **Bottom right:** Tile, Saltillo Imports; bath mat, Dash & Albert.

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OUT THERE *Pages 58 to 65*

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True North Stoves, truenorthstoves.com
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West Elm, westelm.ca

Contractor, CX Contracting. ***Page 59:*** Sconces, Kuzco Lighting; fireplace insert, Fireplace Xtrordinair. ***Page 60:* Top right:** Rug, Salari Fine Carpets. ***Page 61:* Top:** Range by Fulgor Milano, Midland Appliance; stools by Muuto, Vancouver Special. **Bottom:** Sectional, EQ3; armchair, West Elm; side table, Barter. ***Page 62:*** Chandelier, Ravenhill Studio; dining table by Bensen, Inform; dining chairs by Muuto, Vancouver Special. ***Page 63:* Bottom right:** Sconce, Cedar & Moss. ***Page 64:*** Ceiling fan, Big Ass Fans; pouf, Salari Fine Carpets. ***Page 65:* Top left:** Wood-burning stove, True North Stoves. **Top right:** Wall tile, Daltile; countertop, Caesarstone.

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Clean Contemporary design, Julia Francisco, (416) 937-5371 or juliafranciscodesign.com; Modern Urban Zen architecture, Michael Boxer, Boxer Architects, (416) 558-5489 or boxerarchitects.com; Oceanfront Infinity design, Sherry Hakimzadeh, Sherry Hak Interior Design, (604) 306-9485 or sherryhak.ca.

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Quintessential Co., quintessentialco.com
Regency Fireplace Products, regency-fire.com
Ronald Holbrook, Holbrook & Associates Landscape Architects, (416) 924-8165 or ronaldholbrook.com
Rumford Fireplaces, rumford.com
Solus Decor, 1-877-661-2529 or solusdecor.com
Struxure, struxure.com
TimberTech, timbertech.com
Todd Pools, (905) 640-7665 or toddpools.ca
Traditional Cut Stone, (416) 652-8434 or traditionalcutstone.com
Tribù, tribu.com.
Tuuci, tuuci.com
Werever, werever.com

Clean Contemporary: Planting design, Joel Loblaw; pool contractor, Gib-San Pools. ***Page 66:*** Outdoor gas fireplace, Regency Fireplace Products. ***Page 67:* Top right:** Umbrellas, Tuuci; outdoor dining table by Case, Design Within Reach. **Left:** Outdoor cabinets, Werever. **Bottom right:** Fireplace, Flare Fireplaces; pool coping and deck stone, Elite Concrete; flooring (in loggia), Mirage Floors. **Modern Urban Zen:** Landscape architecture, Holbrook & Associates Landscape Architects; landscape contracting, Arbordale Landscaping; pool contractor, Todd Pools; interior design, Pencil Design; builder, Profile Development Group. ***Page 68:*** Kitchen counter, millwork, Quintessential Co.; dining table, chairs, Tribù. ***Page 69:* Top left:** Outdoor sofa, Tribù; accent tables, Hollace Cluny. **Right:** Limestone bench (far left), Traditional Cut Stone; fireplace, Rumford Fireplaces; coffee table, rug, Allan Rug Co. **Bottom left:** Chaises longues, outdoor woven lamp, Tribù. **Oceanfront Infinity:** Landscape master plan, Paul Sangha Creative; landscape design, Élevé Atelier; pool contractor, Aloha Pools; contractor, Nader Shabdiz, NSR Contracting. ***Page 70:* Top:** White chairs, Ikea; round planter, Atlas Pots. **Bottom left:** Outdoor kitchen, Livingspace Outdoor. ***Page 71:* Top right:** Pergola, Struxure; barbecue, Kalamazoo Outdoor Gourmet; pizza oven, Alfa Forni; ice maker, fridge, Perlick. **Bottom left:** Retractable awning, Atria Designs; outdoor sofas and woven poufs by Paola Lenti, Livingspace Outdoor; fire table, Solus Decor; composite wood deck, TimberTech; limestone deck, Adera Natural Stone Supply.

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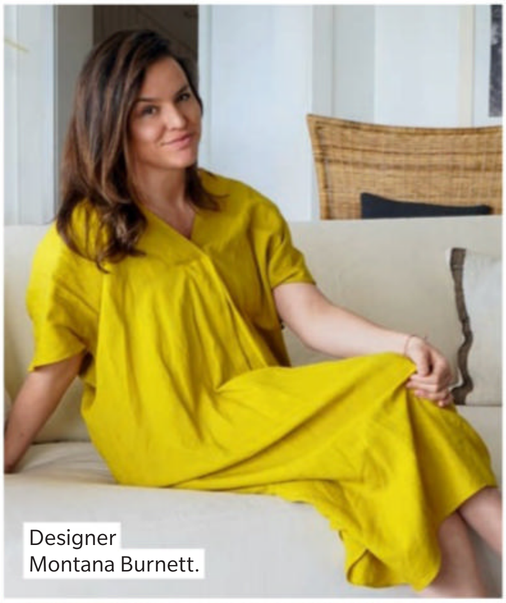
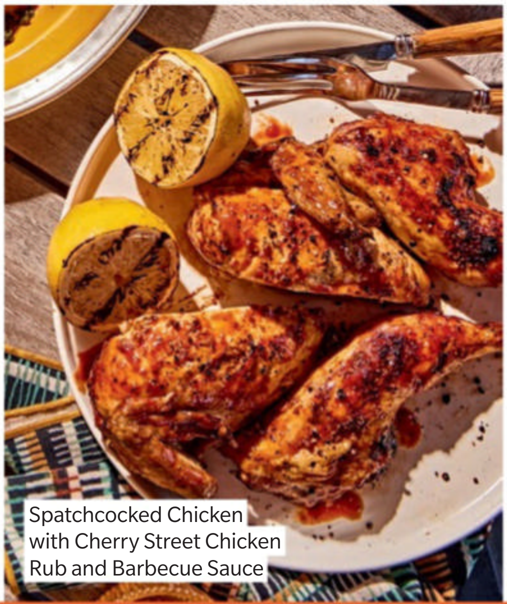


Designer Montana Burnett.



Spatchcocked Chicken with Cherry Street Chicken Rub and Barbecue Sauce

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Source Guide

LITTLE WONDER

LITTLE WONDER *Pages 72 to 79*
Design, Parris McKenna, Parris McKenna Design, parrismckenna.com.

PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS
Benjamin Moore, 1-855-724-6802 or benjaminmoore.ca
Blinds, Drapes & Bedding, blindsdrapesbedding.ca
Cottage Country Builders, (705) 765-3675 or cottagecountrybuilders.com
Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca
Creekside Tile Company, (416) 256-3800 or creeksidetile.com
Etsy, etsy.com
Garnet Hill, garnethill.com
LD Shoppe, ldshoppe.com
Light House Co., (705) 928-1855 or lighthouseco.ca
Loloi, loloirugs.com
Marble Trend, (416) 783-9911 or marbletrend.com
Pottery Barn Canada, potterybarn.ca
Silverbirch Cabinetry & Millwork, (289) 244-9083 or silverbirchinc.com
Tiffany Leigh Design, tiffanyleighdesign.com
Tuck, tuck.ca
Upper Canada Specialty Hardware, (905) 940-8358 or ucsh.com
Wayfair Canada, wayfair.ca

Builder, Cottage Country Builders; wall colour, Swiss Coffee (OC-45), Benjamin Moore. ***Page 73:*** Stool, LD Shoppe; coffee table, Wayfair Canada; rug, Loloi. ***Page 74:*** **Top left:** Tile, Creekside Tile Company. ***Page 75:*** Millwork, Silverbirch Cabinetry & Millwork. ***Page 76:*** Counters, Marble Trend; hardware, Upper Canada Specialty Hardware. ***Page 77:*** Dresser by Jake Arnold, Crate & Barrel. ***Page 78:*** **Top right:** Custom roman shade by Antoinette Van Speyk, Blinds, Drapes & Bedding; sconce, Light House Co.; throw by Tiffany Leigh Design, Tuck; bed linens, Garnet Hill. **Bottom left:** Tile, Creekside Tile Company; shower fixtures, Etsy; vanity, Pottery Barn Canada.

FOOD NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 84

Matthew Stowe's Roasted Corn Guacamole

SERVES 5

1	*serrano pepper*
3	*tsp fresh lime juice*
1	*clove garlic, finely chopped*
1½	*tsp sea salt*
2	*cobs corn, husked*
½	*bunch cilantro, divided*
1	*large tomato, diced into ¼" pieces*
1	*large red onion, diced into ¼" pieces*
2	*tsp olive oil*
5	*ripe avocados*
2	*tsp feta cheese, grape tomatoes, cilantro leaves and slices of serrano pepper (optional), for garnish*
1	*bag corn tortilla chips, for serving*

PREPARE GUACAMOLE

1. Cut serrano pepper in half. For less spice, use spoon to remove seeds. (If you like the heat, leave them in!) Thinly slice 6 to 8 pieces for garnish, then finely chop remaining pepper. (To reduce the spice, soak pepper in cold water while you prepare the rest of the guacamole.)
2. In small bowl, combine lime juice, finely chopped pepper, garlic and sea salt. Allow to marinate for 15 to 30 minutes — the longer the better. This will mellow the garlic and, when mixed, disperse the seasoning evenly throughout the guacamole.

PREPARE CORN

1. On grill set to high heat, place husked corn. Cook for 12 to 15 minutes, moving corn every 3 to 4 minutes to achieve an even, charred colour.
2. Once corn is cooked, cut kernels off cob and separate by hand. Save 5 to 6 pieces for garnish.

ASSEMBLE AND SERVE

1. Chop half of cilantro, stems included, and save remaining leaves for garnish.
2. In small bowl, combine corn kernels, diced tomato and onion, chopped cilantro and olive oil.
3. Cut each avocado in half from pole to pole and remove pit. (One avocado per person is a good guideline for serving size.)
4. Using small wire resting rack with ½" squares, set rack over large bowl. Place avocado half on rack, skin-on and cut-side down, and push through rack, creating a small dice. Carefully remove peel and repeat with remaining avocado halves. If you don't have a rack, scoop avocado flesh out with spoon and mash with fork, leaving small chunks no bigger than ½".
5. Using large spoon or rubber spatula, combine avocado with lime and vegetable mixtures, gently folding ingredients.
6. Serve as a mound topped with feta, halved grape tomatoes, cilantro leaves, serrano pepper slices and reserved corn kernels, with tortilla chips on the side. Enjoy!

SHOPPING INFORMATION

Find our Shopping List, a comprehensive listing of stores, manufacturers, designers and tradespeople featured in this issue, on page 88.

CONTINUED FROM...

TREASURED ISLAND

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 57

"Having white walls in a cottage just didn't feel right to me," says Angela. Marble also felt strangely precious in the ash wood kitchen, built by cabinetmaker Wheelers Studio, so black Laminam was chosen for the counters instead. There are no upper cabinets — just generous windows to frame the woodsy views.

The cottage's colour palette is a profusion of earthy and rich greens, blues and reds that cascade over sofas and chairs in durable fabrics chosen because they bring warmth. "We wanted finishes that reminded us of the Ontario cottages we grew up going to — lots of wood and colour, filled with bunk beds and books."

Activities lean low-key — there are no screens to be glued to. "As soon as the kids get here, they grab a book, sit on the sofa and read," says Angela. A floor-to-ceiling bookcase loaded with Archie comics, Agatha Christie novels and old magazines makes it easy. The kids also do crafts, play board games and, of course, snack on the hour; when the weather allows, they eat outdoors.

Though it was a long time coming, Angela couldn't be more pleased with their island retreat. "I'm so happy with it," she says. "The builder was wonderful and made the process great. We drive one hour from our house to the dock and, whoa, we're just here. This cottage feels like such an escape."

In the Next Issue

SEPTEMBER

FABULOUS SMALL SPACES

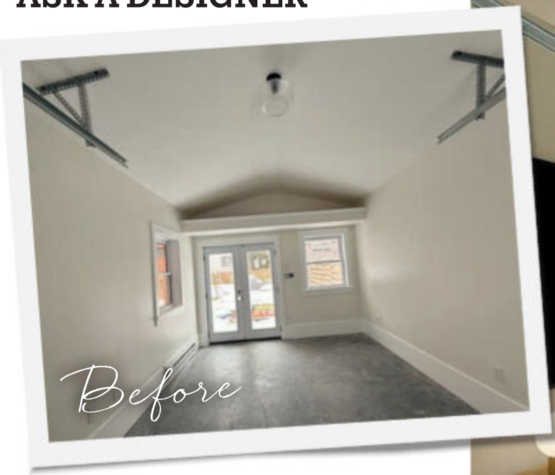
Designers show you how to bring big style to a small footprint.

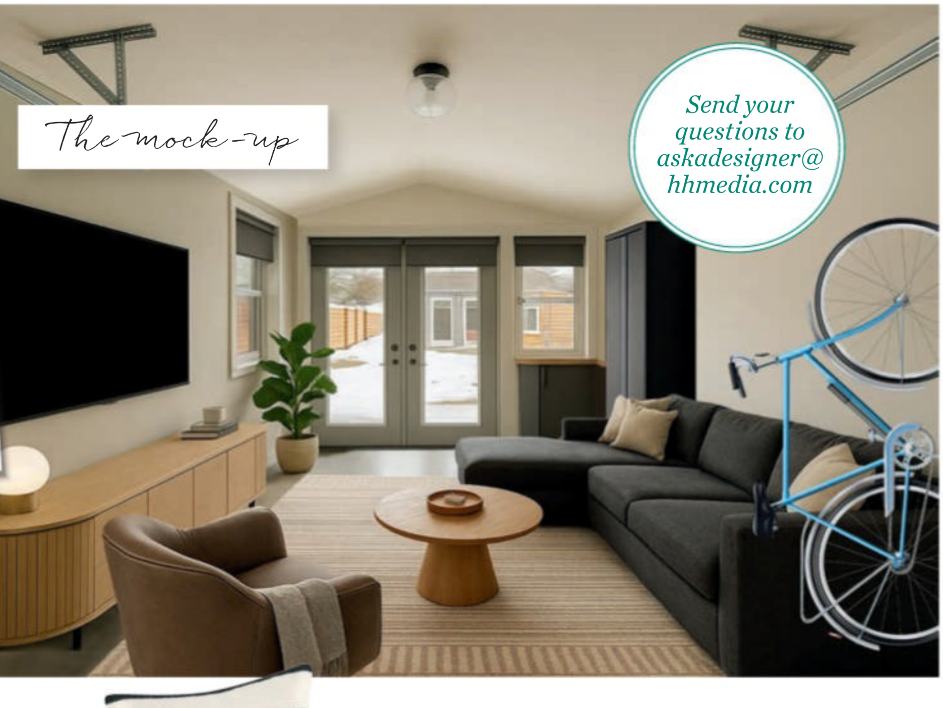
▲ A STUNNING COACH HOUSE FILLED WITH COLOUR AND PATTERN BY CYNTHIA FERGUSON

LINDA LAMB DESIGNS HER OWN LOFT WITH LAYERS OF TEXTURE AND POPS OF PASTEL ▼

INSIDE A BEAUTIFUL PREFAB CABIN IN HALIBURTON, ONT. ▶

ON SALE AUG 4





Send your questions to askadesigner@hhmedia.com

Double Take

Gillian Atkins' best advice for organizing a dual-purpose detached garage.

Q We recently built a detached garage with the intention of using it as a second living room. We'd like to keep a small section for garage items such as bikes and shovels but would love some advice on how to create a living space. Can you help? —**E.R.**, *Cobourg, Ont.*

A First, create distinct zones: one for storage near the glass doors, one for lounging in the centre, and one for bikes with easy access to the garage door at the opposite end of the space.

In zone 1, use industrial-grade modular cabinets to create a work surface and storage for rakes, shovels and tools. If you can get plumbing into the garage, consider adding a sink for cleanup and a bar fridge.

For zone 2, choose a large indoor-outdoor rug and a sectional in a dark performance fabric. The sectional could be modular, in case parts of it need to move out of the way, plus it could be used as an extra bed. Mount a TV on the wall opposite with storage below, and add a lounge chair that swivels. In zone 3, hang bikes on the wall with mounts that can swivel flat to the wall. And don't forget roller blinds for privacy!

Gillian Atkins is a senior designer at Lynda Reeves Design Studio, LRDS.

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*1. 6-Piece **cabinet set** with Base, Wall Cabinets and 48" Ready to Assemble Locker in Black Frame with Grey Door and Bamboo, $1,900. NewAge Products. 2. Rosie **coffee table** in Natural, $499. Must. 3. Kiva **outdoor pillow** in Ivory-black, $49. Urban Barn. 4. Tova **outdoor pillow** in Rust-ivory, $49. Urban Barn. 5. Lounge Deep 2-Piece **sectional** with Chaise Lounge in Ascend Fabric in Night, $8,254. Crate & Barrel. 6. Smaart **TV stand** in Oak Veneer, $999. Must. 7. Swivel **bike wall mount** by MonTek, $130/pack of 4. Amazon. 8. 7'10" x 10'6" Mijas **outdoor rug** in Natural, $349. Urban Barn. 9. Lína **swivel chair** in Prone Leather by Hlynur Atlason, $5,530. Design Within Reach.*

Photography by Alex Lukey (Gillian's portrait)/Mock-up by Gillian Atkins, enhanced by AI

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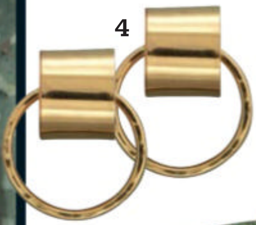
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three ships
First Light

7

CANADA COOL

Produced by AMANDA SMITH | *Text by* CHELSEA DOLAN

O Canada! At home and in fashion, we're embracing our style with Canadian businesses top of mind this summer. Take notes from this lakeside cottage (*above*) styled with iconic Hudson's Bay stripes, a jute rug and cosy wood panelling. Channel the Great White North with Canadian Shield–inspired wallpaper by **Kate Golding, Humble Nature**'s wool throw designed by Anishinaabe artist Caroline Monnet, a made-in-Canada oak dining chair from **Roan** and flag-hued lighting by Montreal's **Luminaire Authentik.** At Paris Fashion Week, we saw a breezy ensemble in red and white plaid accented with a relaxed button-down (*above*). Try the look for yourself with **Matt & Nat**'s forest green satchel, a varsity-style baseball cap by **Province of Canada** and **La Canadienne**'s suede boat shoes. Add a double-double dose of patriotism with **Red Canoe**'s maple leaf patch and red nail polish from **Bkind,** then accessorize with an **Anzie** bracelet, statement earrings from **Olaeda** and reading glasses from **French Kiwis.** Hydrating eye cream by **Three Ships,** a rosy lip and cheek tint from Toronto's **19/99** and a spritz of **Ruby Brown**'s woodsy fragrance will round out your cool Canadian summer vibe.

8

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11

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Ruby Brown
MONTRÉAL
EAU DE PARFUM

13

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*1. Ysée **reading glasses** in Black Marble, French Kiwis. 2. Coral Crush **nail polish,** Bkind. 3. Nube-danoise **ceiling light** in CYL-CG by Luminaire Authentik, Robinson Lighting & Bath. 4. I Am Brave **earrings** by Sarah Ostiguy, Olaeda. 5. Hunter **dining chair** in Natural Oiled Oak, Roan. 6. First Light Vitamin C and Caffeine **eye cream** by Three Ships, Holt Renfrew. 7. Bohème Multicolour Opal Rondelle **bracelet,** Anzie. 8. Letter C **baseball hat** in Navy, Province of Canada. 9. Regain Suede **boat shoe** in Chestnut, La Canadienne. 10. Canada **patch,** Red Canoe. 11. Canadian Shield **wallpaper** by Kate Golding, Wynil. 12. Bois **fragrance** in Woody and Velvety, Ruby Brown. 13. Water Colour **lip and cheek tint** in Tegla, 19/99. 14. Merino Wool Amik **throw** by Caroline Monnet, Humble Nature. 15. Adel Micro Vegan Purity **satchel** in Herb, Matt & Nat.*

Photography by David A. Land, Otto (entry)/PixelFormula, Sipa, Shutterstock (fashion)/
Room design by Wendy Wurtzburger and Chris Bentley (entry)/Styling by Liz Strong (entry)

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